SPIRITUAL REGISTER;

OR, AN

AUTHENTIC ACCOUNT

OF THE

LORD's Dealings with many BELIEVERS,

WHO HAVE LATELY DEPARTED IN THE

TRIUMPH OF FAITH.

By THOMAS WILLS, A. B.

Minister of Silver-street, and the New Chapel, Islington: And fo merly of Magdalene-Hall, Oxford.

Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with
so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every
weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us,
and let us run with satience the race that is set
before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher
of our saith,

Heb. xii. 1, 2.

VOL. III.

LONDON:

Printed for J. MURGATROYD, No. 73, Chifwelf-Street: where also may be had the Two former Vols. price 4s. Sold also by HAZARD, of Bath; and MILLS, of Brigol.

1795.

[Price Two Shillings and Sixpence in boards.]

ERRATA

page line

6 after in read netraspellion. 17

6 for cumberous read cumbrous. 21

17 after fed, point of interrogation.

4 after whose, the latter part of the parenthelis to be 28

31 16 after editor, sead, of this book.

10 after among ft read our. 33

in the margin for they read the corporation.

16 the inverted commas to be transposed to 1. 17.

10 for G read Loftey. The two following narratives were transmitted by the Rev. Mr. Wildhors, I should be inserted, a letter from the Rev. Mr. Musm

14 dele two laft points of admiration. 99

laft line dele S. 104

172 24 dele comma after I.

I for suitbbold read withbeld. 174

12 dele point of interrogation, 197 I for pefon read perfan.

202 II after ordinance read of the Lord's Supper. 233

4 dele femicolen after the word you.

LATELY PUBLISHED IN LARGE OCTAVO.

Price Five Stillings, in boards.

With an elegant Head done from an Original late in the poffeffion of ibe Rev. Mr. Ryland.

The LIFE and CHARACTER

Rev. JAMES HERVEY, M.A.

By the Rew John Ryland.

With Sixty-five of his Original Letters to the Author of this Life.

CONTENTS

	A de
No:	Page-
I. AN account of the death of the Mr. Samuel Walker, of Tru	Rev.
Mr. Samuel Walker, of Tru	ro in
Cornwall O.1	IXX.
	WWX.
II. Of Mr. Conon, Grammar Sc	bool-
Master of Truro	28
HI. fthe Rev. T. B. Vicar of P.	38
IV. Of Thomas Barnes, at Bath	56
V. Of a Child in the eleventh year	
age	64.
VI. Of Mr. Lancaster.	70
VII. Of Sarah Lafkey	79
VIII. Of a person in Cornwall	82
Of Miss E. C. at Flushing	85
HOOME NEW YORK NEW HOOME NEW YORK NEW	THE STATE OF THE STATE OF
IX. Of Mr. S. ot H.	89
X. Of Mrs. S. (his wife)	100
XI. Of F. Kiffingbury	105
XII. Of Mr. Herne of Highgate	111
XIII. Of Payne of the same pla	
	AND DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY.
X.V. Of the Rev. Mr. L. at York	
XV. Of Mrs. Upton - 1 - 1	127
XVI. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Brain, of Brift	ol 133
XVII. Of Mrs. C.	175
A 2	. No.

XVIII Of Mrs. Appleby XIX. Of ———————————————————————————————————	Page 177 182 187 190 inis- 195 200
XVIII Of Mrs. Appleby XIX. Of ———————————————————————————————————	177 182 187 190 inis-
XX. Of Mrs. Wd XXI. Of Miss C. XXII. Of a youth intended for the mistry XXIII. Of Miss E. West XXIV. Of Mrs. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	187 190 inis-
XX. Of Mrs. Wd XXI. Of Miss C. XXII. Of a youth intended for the mistry XXIII. Of Miss E. West XXIV. Of Mrs. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	190 inis- 195
XXII. Of a youth intended for the matry XXIII. Of Miss E. West XXIV. Of Mrs. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	190 inis- 195
XXIII. Of Miss E. West XXIV. Of Miss. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	inis- 195
XXIII. Of Miss E. West XXIV. Of Miss. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	195
XXIV. Of Mrs. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	
XXIV. Of Mrs. Plaskett XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	分别是一种
XXV. Of Honour Mann XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXXI. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	207
XXVI. Of a gentleman at Bath XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXX. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	210
XXVII. Of an aged minister XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXX. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	217
XXVIII. Of Mrs. W. XXIX. Of a Lady XXX. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	219
XXIX. Of a Lady XXX. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	220
XXX. Of Mrs. Elizabeth Collins XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	221
XXXI. Of Sarah Mainwaring XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	223
XXXII. Of J. C. Esq.	226
	248
XXXIII. Of the death of Mrs. Wildbore	250
XXXIV. Of Martha Shapley	255
XXXV. Of a young woman	257
XXXVI. Of Mr. C1	259
XXXVII. Of a boy of 13 years of age	260
XXXVIII Of S. Lydicot	266
XXXXIX Of Mrs. Edwards	267
XL. Of Elizabeth Lafkey	269
JUDGMENTS.	
	280
XLI. of Joseph M—ge	
XLII. Of J—W—rs	283

ESPONDE CONTRACTOR

THE

SPIRITUAL REGISTER.

near but always of the accept all could be

On the Death of the late Rev. SAMUEL WAL-KER, of Truro, in Cornwall, who departed this Life, July 19, 1761; in the Forty-eighth Year of his Age.

As a very particular and authentic account of the life and death of this most eminent minister of the Gospel is already in the hands of the public, and prefixed to the two volumes of his Catechetical Lectures, published under the inspection of a reverend and very worthy dignitary of the church, now living, who attended him in his last illness, and took the substance of the said account from his own Vol. III.

mouth; the editor of this book thinks it superfluous and improper to go over the same ground; but as he has the following papers by him, which have never been published, he thinks it will be a gratification to the christian world, to insert them in this collection.

The following letter was written immediately before his death, by the late Rev. George Burnett, who was his spiritual child, and attended him to the last. It was addressed to the late Mr. Conon of Truro, who had been the happy instrument, in the Lord's hands, of Mr. Walker's conversion; and with whom, from that time to the day of his death, he was in the closest habit of intimacy and friendship imaginable.

To Mr. CONON, at Truro.

"I Have been with Mr. Walker now almost two days, and purpose to stay with him eight or nine days more, blessing God and hoping to reap some advantage to my poor soul from such an opportunity. He is at present reduced to the lowest degree of weakness, of which I suppose human nature is capable; sometimes almost fainting away, and at the same time burnt up with a scorching sever, attended

by profuse sweating, &c. I lest him last night; I expected not, neither did there appear the least probability, that I should see him again in the morning; but he is alive still, and, what is far more, alive unto God through Christ Jesus, beyond what ever I have hitherto seen him. At different times, and as the strength of his body would give him leave, he has expressed him-self as follows;

"That he rejoiced and was comforted at the fight of T. H. and myself; not doubting that we should foon meet him in a better world."-Again, "That he had been diffressed through the want of fensible communion and comfort; but was relieved by that scripture, that they that worship God must worship him in spirit, and in the more noble faculties; that he had found this was the case experimentally with him; perceiving more evidently the constant workings of God's spirit upon his soul than ever aforetime; and that he was now enabled to difcern clearly, when the Lord Jesus first effectually laid hold of his heart, and threw down opposition before him." And at the same time he said, "Thou, Lord Jesus, hast shewn me the truth of that scripture. unless a man forsake all that he bath, he cannot be my disciple." To one of his friends, who could not refrain from tears, " Why do you trouble yourfelf?

yourfelf? I am going to heaven; Christ, my Lord, died." To me, who was in the fame weeping condition, "Do you not rejoice with me?" I told him I did, on which he class'd my hand. I have never heard one impatient or complaining word come out of his mouth; but when I fee the smallest particulars which pertain to his friend's comfort, I am low on the comparison of how it was with me in similar. but better, circumstances. Would you believe it, that being in the condition he is, he has more than once given directions about my diet? Thus far at present; in the view of which I would fay, bleffed be the Lord God, and praifed be his came for ever and ever! On mentioning to Mr. Walker I was writing to you, he repeated your name with tokens of endearment, and defired me to tell you, that you might foon expect to hear of his release; that he died confidently in the principles he had preached; that, as to a shepherd to his people, he was not much troubled; for that the work belonged to Christ, the Great Shepherd of the sheep, and to Christ he committed them; in particular, that he remembered you, fir, at times as he was able.

Blackheath, July 13, 1761.

I am, &c.
George Burnett."

wind milit duffer our

name

If the reader has not seen the account of Mr. Walker's life and death prefixed to his lectures, it will be a gratification to him to hear, that the day following the date of the preceeding account he dictated to his amanuens a letter to be sent to his dearest friend Mr. Conon, of which the following is an extract, viz.

"I have no doubts, great confidence, great fubmission, no complaining—as to actual views of the joys that are coming, I have none; but a stedfast belief of them in Christ. What I have found in myself for months, both as to the review of time past, and the present workings of the spirit, has left me without all doubt of my union with Christ." The two or three following expressions from his dying lips, with a faultering accent, to those around him, evidently prove the happy frame of his foul, on the very verge of eternity; "That the body of fin was not yet done away, but thathe should continue a finner to the last gasp; and desired his friend would pray for him as fuch." This he faid to one who was observing what a bleffing he enjoyed in his present situation, that his soul was ripe for heaven and eternity. A day or two after, he uttered this rapturous expression;

B 3

"I have been upon the wings of the cherubims; heaven has been in a manner opened to mee I shall be foon there myself, and am only. forry that I cannot take you with me." And to the clergyman whose letter was transcribed above, he said, "O my friend, had I strength to speak, I could tell you fuch news, as would rejoice your very foul. I have had fuch views of heaven - but I am not able to fay more."-He departed this life the next morning, on the Lord's day; and exchanged an earthly fabbath for that of eternal reft.

The Author of Mr. Walker's life abovementioned, having therein inferted fome specimens of the experience of that bleffed man transcribed from his diary; the editor of this account trufts he needs make no apology to the public, for fubioining a few more of the fame nature, which have fallen into his hands, and never been published. sand I in the set to see at

ver done away, our that Monday, March 21, 1757.

"I have been reading Macknight's curious judicious Preliminaries. Do I believe the scriptures, better for these niceties? or why do I believe them? were I incapable of answering o kudeutari a

main doctrines of scripture, I should not doubt the truth of them; so conclude, there is little to be expected from answering the trivial objections of individuals. If they believe them, it will only be a conviction of the great doctrines contained in them; of man's sinfulness, misery, and restoration."

"I fee then (what I find by experience true as to myself) such discoveries of God respecting him to me, as just that very Being I would desire him to be; in all whose perfections I entirely acquiesce; and whose revealed designs towards me are just and good. Let it be my endeavour to deal with the bearts, rather than the beads, of sinners; and only to apply to their heads, so as to influence their hearts. This I am sure, is the plain scripture-way."

Tuesday, March 22.

"Good Mr. Flavel has pressed us this evening to actual communion with God. Sure,
if this is not obtained in ordinances, it cannot
be expected out of them. I must be aware of
sloth, worldly cares, formality, spiritual pride,
and apostacy of heart; prepare my heart to
meet God; and seek comfort, not merely for the
sake of comfort, but of usefulness. I am greatly
B4, desective

defective in actual communion (out of prayer, at least) and whether I feek God's face in prayer for his glory, is not quite clear; this is plain, I do not feek his face so importunately as I ought."

Wednesday, March 23.

"How great the apostacy of my nature! I get a glimpse of God in prayer; and lose sight of him again as soon as prayer is ended: Indeed I scarcely ever keep him continually in view through my devotions. If the apostacy be so great, I have greater cause of thankfulness, that I have any sellowship with God at all.

Friday, March 25.

"A LOWNESS of spirits returned after dinner, which subjected me to a fort of slothfulness; and that to a disposition towards previshness: I was not so ready to bear the bad tempers of the prople as I ought.

Tuefday, March 29.

"Over-tired, faturday, funday, and yesterday I could write nothing. The soldiers were with me great part of the two former days; and lest us yesterday. I have been enabled, in some measure, to labour for their souls, since their coming hither, (the 4th of November,) many of them

them seem to be awakened; not less than 250, in larger or smaller numbers, at my house. I desire to commit them to the Lord and to the power of his grace, which is able to build them up.

"This morning I had more than common of a steady believing frame; which, more or less, has attended me through the day;—blessed be God! when I see I am nothing, and do nothing right, I am most in the quiet frame. I have special need to be out of myself in prayer, to regard only my wants, and the promise of God. Methinks my exercises are rather meditations that warm my heart, than devout supplications. This evening the subject was reproof to prosit; by which I must pray to get above conceit and prejudices.

Wednesday, March 30.

"Tomorrow I am to collect the town*—Am I ashamed of that employment?" not as once. Am I asraid of the treatment I may perhaps meet? the thought has not been much on my mind. Am I prepared for a repulse?——I should be careful neither to indulge anger or distain. My thoughts much wandering in public worship.

^{*} The falary of the minister is chiefly raised by an annual collection from house, to house, among the principal inhabitants.

Friday, April L.

"COMPLAINT of want of communion. Sunday next is facrament-funday. My thoughts have been somewhat drawn this way by the exercises of the work. I am much called on to lament my little profiting by the last supper, and little desire after this. What a tendency has my heart to pass over duties in a customary manner!

Sunday, April 3. SACRAMENT-DAY.

" Last night my heart did not cordially acquiesce with God's sentence against sin; and though that matter be pretty well cleared up to my mind, yet I ought to feek carefully more light upon it. I would go to the table like a pardoned rebel, who is fill half a rebel; with great humility and thankfulness, to remember the great means of falvation represented in this or-Thanks be to God, I heartily approve of this way; and do as heartily defire, and, through grace, determine, not only for wrath, but also for conscience-sake, to lead my life conformably, with the words of Christ, as a member of his kingdom, in the midft of a wicked world, with which I would make no compliances to get it's esteem, or to avoid its displeasure; and this entythigh standard whit reveal I regard saussidenci ingalici

I regard as the only method by which I can glorify God.

Three o'Clock. "I am not returned rejoicing. My frame has been somewhat disordered,
yet I think I have not been careless. Sure,
I deserve no favours; so will endeavour to be
thankful for, and to improve what I have received, a composed purpose of heart, to serve the
Lord, in opposition to the desire of my heart of
men's esteem."

Ten o'clock at night. "The thought of a crucified Jesus does not improve my mind as I could wish, in any operating degree. I have laboured with the soldiers this evening; and my body would needs be excused retired exercises. But I will exercise myself in them, as well as I can. On the whole, this day has been uncomfortable; but I hope, by the grace of god, it will not be unprofitable. I need to see the necessity and excellency of walking (that is, of keeping, in opposition to all difficulties) more close with God, than I have usually seen it.

Monday, April 4:

"Somewire better fatisfied with the day than usual; having enjoyed more impression of God upon

upon my heart; indeed, in every respect, I see I am even nothing. I ought to be thankful for some clearer discoveries of my desire after esteem; and of the difficulty, as well as necessity, of breaking with the world more than ever."

Tuesday, April 5.

"SEEK and ye shall find:" So 'tis by experience; the more I seek communion with God, the more I enjoy it. What a fink is my heart! Such a shame of having spoke as became a christian, immediately after, started up in my heart, as confounds me to think of. O this pride! and yet my pride is so great, it does not stop as it should, in the very sight of so much vileness. Lord, for thy mercies sake, make me vile in my own eyes!"

Eafter Day, Morning.

"THERE is a defire of efteem resting upon my heart, which evidences itself divers ways: among tristers it would make me light; and in a large company it would constrain my conduct that I might not be singular: it has a general influence, that wherever I am, and whatever I do, I am too much biassed by it. Indeed I find it difficult beyond measure, to act with that freedom and particularity I ought in a wicked world.

world. Beset with such an enemy, tis no wonder I am often deceived; and seldom act up as I ought, when brought to the trial. This has been my most obstinate adversary all along: The lord deliver me speedily out of the hands of such a betrayer of his interest, and disturber of my peace!

Monday, April 11.

"On hearing unexpectedly I must meet the vestry this morning, I was put in a hurry; alas! I am weak as water. When shall I be able to look the world in the face? surely, while possessed with such animal fears, I am in perpetual danger of disgracing my profession. I have been like one dead, nor could fix my attention in public. This is very heartless and disheartening. It were well, if it were a matter of more settled grief. Surely I am not instruenced, as I ought, by zeal for God.

Tuesday, April 12.

"My prayer has been heard; and I am in some fort delivered from the sears of men. The experience of God hearing prayers, should stir us up to more diligence in them. Another special matter of thankfulness is, the news, this day brought me, that my dear soldiers still stand their

their ground at Dock. How many ways am I called upon to work in the Vineyard! yet how forgetful! might I not have done more at Mr. A——'s? out of feafon: why should I not improve occasions more than I do? To keep the company under restraint, seemed the most I attempted while there.

Wednesday, April 13.

"WHILE I feem to have no fensible delight in God, I am not, however, without some evidences; particularly, I would improve opportunities of serving Christ in the conversion of sinners. There is much knowledge of the way, at least in many; and Jesus is at least exalted in the mouth of such as yet do not appear to be closed with him. In this I cannot but rejoice, because honourable to my Lord; and I would hope such are more in the way toward salvation. Trials appear at a distance; I would trust in him, whose grace is sufficient for me, that he will not suffer me to fall. How needful such things! they shew me the vileness of my heart, and draw me nearer to Christ.

Thursday, April 14.

DELIGHT in God, is a lesson I have much to learn: It will be a blessed world, where he shall

shall be seen as he is, and we shall not live at so deplorable a distance from his sight. I am more apt to forget myself when I sit down with my sister, than any time else; our conversation being about non-important things too often. I could wish I had a more direct aim to God's glory in my ordinary business. I seem to do it, as it were, I know not why.

Friday, April 15.

"THE thoughts of God are diffant, cold, and lifeless on my heart. I see him but through a glass darkly. Much disordered by a cold, I find it pain to think and write. Prayers at church less wandering, than is usual at such Carried away from my attempts to fav times. much to purpose, by the infignificance of conversation. Comforted this evening, in the people coming to me: God, I truft, is dealing with their hearts. A little impressed with the thoughts of God's love in making peace in] Christ, before we were born; which I was opening to some with me. My heart was rifing to impatience, when I was kept longer than I expected: it feemed to humble me.-Was opposed, and I was not uneasy." Monday

Monday, April 18.

"YESTERDAY'S work removed a cold I had pretty strongly lying upon me; which should encourage me not to remit diligence. At Mrs. A—'s, this afternoon, had no spirits, and did nothing. How have I bore the insult this day put upon my office by the captain of the soldiers, forbidding his men publickly to come to my house for instruction? God be praised, I have sound little rising of resentment, if any; and do desire to pity the case of the blind officer;—to forgive his advisers, and to wait on God for opportunity to help his soldiers. A letter from Mr. Benson Morgan, Carmarthenshire. Praise God!"

Tuefday, April 19.

"Club*very uncomfortable and unpromising. What I see in others, too much influencing conduct, let me sear it mysels:—Concern about a worldly character which I see plainly, and find also by my own heart, would needs set itself up, for a rule of action. This fills me with serious thoughts on my way home; and

[•] An Affociation of Ministers for religious pur-

in the confideration of being left to stand alone, supposing some dead, and others gone back, I was sometimes fearful of apostacy; and then confident in Christ with regard to usefulness; with some I have mist the opportunity, I am condemned in. O what a dreadful state must I be in, if I should no longer have a heart to rejoice in the success of the gospel, and should be ready to think ill of its professors!

Wednesday, April 20.

"This being a public day, I have had occafion to fee how the world lies in fin and fecurity. I find nothing like the least fense of God in the hearts of the most. This fight convinces me, nothing but the gospel preached can revive practical religion; and how national religion has left us, as it found us, in our natural atheism. I have been this day kept from my ordinary fears; and some favorable circumstances came in my way. God has been diftinguishably good to me in bringing me to the knowledge of the truth; while the most of my brethren are left in darkness. have a practical fense of God on my heart; but fight has been indistinct, and my heart without fenfible delight .-- Let me fear for tomorrow. Friday

Friday, April 25.

" I wrote nothing last evening, being rather disposed to cry unto God, because of the coldness and wandering of my heart from him. I fee cause of lamenting two things exceedingly: First, the manifest atheism of the world; which especially in persons of any degree, is gone to fuch an height, as that nothing like fense of God on their hearts is to be feen:---vain they are, worldly, deceitful. This I must regard as a necessary consequence of, and a just judgment upon, our departure from the gospel: which, as I am fully persuaded, is the height of abounding wickedness, that it is the only means of religious temper and conduct in us apostate creatures; so am I equally convinced the ceasing to preach it in this land, and dropping all the vitals of it, is the one cause of all I fee about me. Hence I am confirmed by the general iniquity, in the truth of the gospel. Secondly, The coldness of my own heart, in fo great and glorious a cause. I would, I ought, to do more; and not to be biaffed by the fears or esteem of an opposing world, as I find my corrupt heart would needs be; and by which. I am fo far influenced, as, though not to make much compliance, yet not to act up to the character of a zealous christian and minister.

May

May 10.

In this regard

val as has been between the last date and this. During this time, I have been exercised with denying Christ in the face of several trials I have gone through. My private exercises this morning more quickening than usual, as well as those at the society. I have been a good deal impressed for some days with the abounding sinsulness, and have selt some concern for poor sinners. What method can I take for propagating knowledge in my own parish? Suppose I should draw up some very plain explanation of the belief, commandments, and Lord's prayer, and give it to my parishioners?

Thursday, May 12.

"UNDER more express views of the wickedness of our days, yesterday, and especially last
evening, I saw the evident cause I have to lament the coldness and cowardice of my heart.
So many in this town are trusted to me, and
their souls in so sad a case; yet how coldly do
I pray and labour! when shall I have done with
a worldly heart; rather, when shall I have a
zeal that will set me above the apprehensions
of frowns? for 'tis mens surious saces I chiefly
dread

I am too studious of my own peace. Though I don't make such compliance, yet I don't come up to a conduct, that becomes my character. Lord, thy grace is sufficient, and that only can remedy my own insufficiency. The Lord give me a heart to cry always unto him!"

Sunday Noon, May 29.

" Just returned from facrament, where I met an unwonted rebuke; the enemy had great advantage of me; taking occasion of the fewness of the people present, especially of the Society, to raise up reasoning, mixt with resentment; when it was fuggested whether the society-people did not dillike coming with others, and were influenced by pride. I could get nodeliverance from these thoughts, though they were earnestly prayed and contended against, till the last people were receiving; and was in a manner prevented from the exercise of every grace. Yet, in the midft, I could fee the Lord gracious; and thought I could justify him. have been confessing my fins, and seeking the cause; but see no special reason, being in every thing finful." and their will det man doore the

of fromest for 'the cheef funious faces I cheefly

beach

He well of the flow wind was and a country will be the well and the

book at E of G of Yallow wol

On the Death of the Rev. SAMUEL WALKER, by the late Rev. JAMES BROWNE, formerly of Bristol.

"THE Almighty call'd, the fatal arrow's fled, And pious WALKER's number'd with the dead; His full fledg'd foul releas'd from cumberous clay Soars to the regions of eternal day.

I mourn the friend, who ever knew to steer
Betwixt wild rashness, and low-minded fear;
Who could not soften gospel-truths, to please:
Careless alike of censure and of praise.

To all, he knew their portion to divide,
And still God's word was his unerring guide.
No ear to great authorities were given,
But still he taught what bore the stamp of heav'n.
O happy shade! thy steps may I pursue,
And ardent strive to copy after you!
Oft hast thou press me, friend for ever dear,
Thy sweet advice yet vibrates in my ear.

Tow'rd our high calling's glorious hope to press, And labour after real holiness; Still to be faithful to our master's cause, Nor shrink, when call'd to bear the sacred cross.

vi serieta

But

But from his lip what heavenly counsels flow'd! How well he knew to point the foul to God, How with incessant toils he fill'd the day, Let his lamenting flock at TRURO fay. O Truro! wail th' invaluable friend. The shepherd true who lov'd you to the end. His foes (if foes he had) must furely own His fervent zeal for their falvation shewn. Let hundreds now in blifs, with raptures, tell How they escap'd the gloomy depths of hell. And of his grateful flock who yet furvive. How thro' his labours bleft, by Christ ve live. Quicken'd to all the life divine, ye rife And find the film now vanish'd from your eyes; Nor did he e'er disdain to teach the young, But train'd to heavenly founds the infant-tongue. Babes well-instructed life their simple prayer. And speak their pastor's never ceasing care; Unwarp'd by fenfual ends, or vulgar aims, By tempting riches or by founding names. Superior to preferment's gilded bait, For this reward he nobly chose to wait; Wait, till his Lord descending from the skies Shall bid his faints to endless glories rife. This made his heavenly mind the world forego. And still his love to his dear people shew. While with fuccess heav'n deigns histoilstocrown, True to their interest, he forgets his own. See

See him still faithful in his station keep, The tender shepherd can't forsake his sheep. At last, exhausted nature wears away; Spent with the toils of each returning day.

For such returning day had tasks assign'd To pour fresh light upon the sightless mind, The sleepy to awake, the saint build up To a strong saith, and ever lively hope.

May every watchman in his footsteps tread, And thus religious faving knowledge spread; Content, tho' drones his labours may condemn, Conscious he's right, when least resemblingthem.

Behold the fervant! now his ftrength is gone To the cold grave in pain descending down; But all his sufferings can't extort a groan. What christian magnanimity is here! What strong assiance in his master's care! Though with no slights of holy rapture blest, He still a firm unshaken saith exprest; A saith well built on the atoning blood, His only plea, all prevalent with God.

But Walker, pious faint, shall he depart,
Without some warmer beams around his heart?
Will not the sun of righteousness arise
And place his heaven before his closing eyes?
Yes, the bright glory breaks upon his sight
A blessed antepast of endless light.
The

The Angels open wide the golden doors,
Whence on his foul the rapt'rous vision pours,
O wasting grave! where is thy victory?
With joy he sees his dissolution nigh;
And glories in his privilege—to die."

ANOTHER

ELEGY

On Mr. WALKER's Death, by a Clergyman.

Heav'n waits not the last moment, owns her friends On this side death, and points them out to men. A lecture silent, but of sov'reign power!

Young.

"A MUSE, unskilful in the tale of woe, Untaught in plaintive elegies to sing, For thee, good Walker, bids her numbers flow, For thee she dares to strike the trembling string.

And O! if wisdom, if a soul sincere,
If ev'ry pious, ev'ry christian dead,
Can claim in death the tribute of a tear,
Who can refuse the gen'rous tear to shed. 3

No narrow bounds confin'd thy generous foul;
To all it reach'd, for whom the Saviour dy'd;
Like his, thy loving heart embrac'd the whole,
And long'd to have their greatest wants supply'd.
Friend

Friend to the good, but to no fect a friend,
Thou taught'st the way of unity and peace;
How best, division's causeless strife to end,
And ev'ry jarring passion to appease.

Sweet heav'nly musick dwelt upon thy tongue,
And all thy speech was holiness and love;
Labouring to save the wand'ring sinful throng,
To guide their feet to the blest realms above.

Ye happy sons of favour'd Truro tell, Tell, for with you this burning light did shine; How Satan's kingdom at his preaching fell, And own'd a pow'r and energy divine.

What anguish seiz'd the conscious sinner's mind, When to himself he saw himself display'd! Heard of a God, unmeasurably kind, So oft oppos'd, despis'd, and disobey'd.

What peace unknown was in the foul inftill'd, When the good Spirit the healing balm applied, Taught the glad tidings of the law fulfill'd, The debt discharg'd, by Jesus crucified!

How would he trace the power of heavenly grace In the fair features of a mind renew'd! Prove that its ways are pleasantness and peace, Full of all joy, and fraught with every good.

No hireling he, a shepherd just and true, Himself a pattern to his slock he shew'd; Voz. III. C Held Held forth a bright example to their view, In life, in death, still faithful to his God.

His holy zeal a gracious God rewards,
His God supports him in his final hour;
From death's chill-fear his drooping spirit guards,
And quells thethreatning Tyrant's vengeful pow'r.

See! faith triumphant quells each fiery dart, Brok'n on its firm, its adamantine shield; Hope chears the soul, hope glads the dying heart, And love impatient longs to be fulfill'd.

"I mount, I mount, on cherub's wings, he cries; Heav'n with its joys stands open to my sight.

Soon shall I gain the bright celestial prize,
Soon shall I join the glorious sons of light.

Mourn not for me; in certain hope I go, Yourselves, my friends, your hapless selves bemoan, Still doom'd to pain and sorrow here below, Oh might I take you to Jehovah's throne!"

So spake the saint, conqu'ror o'er sin and death, Whilst his glad heart his heav'nly looks express. "Jesus," he call'd, with his last parting breath, Then gently 'sign'd his soul to endless rest.

Hail happy foul! who can thy fate bemoan, From ev'ry care, from fin, from forrow, free; Gone to thy wish'd for home, to Jesus gone, To the full vision of the Deity!

Yet,

Yet, let the friendless muse in artless lay
Thus with thy people, forrow mix her own;
The last sad tribute that the friend can pay
And with an humble verse inscribe thy humble
stone.

EPITAPH

"HERE, reader, mingled with earth's common clay,

A faithful pastor's mortal body lies, Whose soul set free, now joyful, waits the day; When at the last great trump the dead shall rise.

With faith unfeign'd, with pure unbounded love, In his meek master's heav'nly steps he trod, Fix'd his affections were on things above, He practis'd, as he taught, the ways of God.

Peace to his foul, rest to his ashes, say!
And to his mem'ry drop the pious tear;
Nor fail, like him, to tread the heav'nly way
With humble reverence and godly fear.

Shun the vain transient world's delusive snare, Pilgrim, he loudly warns thee from his tomb; Prepare to die, to meet thy God prepare, Seek an eternal rest, a sure abiding home."

C2

No. II.

No. II.

British at Bull-Godfor I to the 1817

MR. CONON, Mafter of the GRAMMAR-School, at Truro, mentioned in the foregoing account, as the spiritual father of Mr. Walker, (whose't fouls were knit together as those of Jonathan and David, each loving the other as bis own foul, I Sam. xviii. 1.) departed this life" near twenty years ago. Having gone on hand in hand with that diffinguished minister, during the whole course of his spiritual life; nothing was thought of or done by the latter in his ministerial labours, public and private, or under his various trials for the fake of the gofpel, that he did not communicate to, or take the advice of, his more experienced and confidential friend and counfellor Mr. C. This heart-fellowship continued to the very last: for though separated in body at a great distance, during the last year of his life, on account of his illness, a constant correspondence of the most interesting and spiritual nature was kept up between them; infomuch that it was but a few hours before the immediate symptoms of death came on, Mr. W. dictated his last letter to this his dearly beloved and faithful friend,

Not

Notwithstanding this excellent man, Mr. Conon, had undergone heavy trials, and was much persecuted for the sake of the Gospel, so as to have his fettled stipend withheld from him for many years, and to lose nearly all his scholars, (though he was confessedly one of the ablest Schoolmasters in the West of England, and had brought up most of the Gentlemen's fons, in the middle and western part of that county)perfecuted, I fay, which was his greatest honour and glory, because he suffered for the cause of Christ; but none of these things moved him: he felt, nevertheless, the loss of his dearest earthly friend, Mr. Walker, his greateft trial. But having long learned submission to the will of God, "he was now dumb, and opened not his mouth, for he faw it was his doing." to east party) but a bright .

After some years waiting to know the Lord's will about removing his tent to another part of the county, or staying in the town where he had resided so many years, and where so many of his acquaintance that knew any thing of religion lived, who had been called under the ministry of his late friend (and in some respects colleague) Mr. Walker; he at length was saccided and in the tissified

tisfied that it was the will of God, both for the prosperity and comfort of his foul, and more retirement from the world, to remove to the town of Padstow; where, whilst he could enjoy the company and spiritual converse of a few felect religious friends, he at the same time had the privilege of fitting under the ministry of my late dear friend the Rev. Mr. Biddulph, a worthy minister of the gospel, and vicar of that parish; for whom he had very justly entertained great respect; and to his last moments continued in habits of intimacy with him, particularly from that period. During this time, inclined, as he still was, to be useful to the rifing generation, he refumed in a small degree, his former employment, that of teaching the children of a few felect friends and others, the knowledge of grammar, and the latin and greek languages: but (what was of infinitely more use) as the author of this narrative can, through the goodness of God, testify by experience, the first principles of the christian religion; which he made it his constant practice on Lord's dayevenings to explain and enforce with clearness and energy, during the whole year, whilst the children were under his care. So fond was he of this fphere, in which divine providence had placed

placed him as a schoolmaster, that he was oftenknown to wish, if it were the will of God, that when death should come, he might be found in his station; and to die in his school, and suddenly. The Lord heard his prayer in both respects; and whilst, according to his weekly custom, he was looking up on the Saturday-evening for a blessing on the ordinances of the following day, the Lord sent his messenger, death, to remove him instantly to his eternal rest; and translate himfrom his earthly abode to his mansion in glory.

It was remarkable that he had ordered a carriage to convey him on the Monday following, during a vacation, to his former place of refidence, for a short visit to some christian friends; and amongst the rest, to the editor who had the privilege of being numbered amongst them. Thus, when I expected foon to fee my venerable friend once more under my roof, a messenger brought me the unexpected tidings of his being fent for in a better, even a celestial chariot, to his eternal manfion in glory. Hereby indeed the church below was deprived of a dying testimony. But to the praise of free grace and redeeming love, what was a loss to them, was gain to him. He was gone to cast his crown at C4. the

the feet of the Lamb, to take his celestial seat in glory, and to tell listening angels and all the heavenly hosts around, "what a dear Saviour he had found." But though he was not permitted to leave a dying testimony, he left a living one; seen and read of all men, even as many as knew him; for they all "took knowledge of him, that he had been with Jesus." Add to this a little specimen of this gracious man's experience, and views in an illness, some years before his departure to glory, expressed in a letter to his adopted son, the Rev. Mr. Burnett, (mentioned in the preceding memoir) a copy of which, transcribed in Mr. B——'s own hand, the editor has now before him; which is as follows;

Elland. June 27, 1766.

The Brake of Alle House

DEAR MADAM,

A CCORDING to promise, I send you herewith Mr. W—ms's letter. Upon a renewed perusal, I could wish it had more of Jesus, and less of self: tho' some years ago I could see no fault in it. Yet does it tend evidently, on the whole, to the glory of God; and may be useful to stir us up in his service and fear. If this end is answered respecting your madam,

madam, and your fifter; adored be the riches of free grace. I am much indebted to you and Mrs. M----, for many, many favours; and can fay with truth, that I greatly rejoiced over you, and long after your advancement in Christ Jesus. Yea, He is an All-sufficient, an infinitely gracious Saviour: He will not leave you destitute; he will not fail to order every thing in goodness towards you. You know it, Madam; our trials are amongst greatest blessings: yet a little while, and your eyes shall behold it. Yesterday I received a letter from Mr. Conon, of Truro, the instrument under God, of Mr. Walker's conversion. Give me leave to send you the following extract,

Truro, 19th June.

"IT has pleased God lately, blessed be his name for ever for it, to afflict me with a severish disorder, (a thing unexperienced by me, to the best of my remembrance, for sisty-sour years) which confined me for some days to my bed; and to my room for more than two weeks. I am now, blessed be his name, to my own apprehensions, quite recovered from the disorder. But this has shaken my purposes in regard to

the school. I am engaged in honor and conscience to do all that I can for the good of it, and the public; and have forgot and most heartily forgiven all former bad treatment, and even prefent unkindness*. I am willing in my measure. to be useful to the last; but I want to see in every ftep I take, that I walk honeftly, before God and man. My dear G, this late indispofition, I truft, has been and will be a great bleffing to me. I valued health too much: I mean, I depended too much on it: and at one stroke, it pleased the Lord to shew me feelingly. and in great mercy, the frailty and uncertainty of it. It was a gentle chaftisement. my heavenly Father's hand in it. I wanted it, and was enabled to kifs the rod, and the hand that fent it. I bless my God in Jesus Christ, in whose merits alone was all my hope and confidence, for his inward support under it. I had more awful and folemn views of eternity than I ever had before. A fense of the love and goodness of God to me a vile sinner, through all my life, has frequently fince overwhelmed me. that if, by the will of God, I am to live but a week, a month, or a year, I may have fuch a feeling

The deprived him of his falary; but were afterwards obliged to restore it.

feeling fenfe, of what it is to die daily! But I fear much for myfelf! I have had long experience of the treachery of my own heart. By fear and watchfulness, I truft, the divine grace will keep me in a spiritual and disengaged frame to the world all my days. Yet join with me, my dear friend, in praising the Lord for all his goodness, but especially for his late mercy to me, the most unworthy of all his fervants." Thus far Mr. Conon. He is now approaching near to the heavenly Canaan; and breathes the air of it. Do you not feel it, madam? How fweet is the favour of the christian below. when advanced in the knowledge and the love of Jefus! But how infinitely preferable is their fociety above! and Christ Jesus himself, how does he furpass all, and bless and rejoice over them all, for ever and ever!

I am, Madam,

Your much obliged, GEORGE BURNETT."

In the letter above, we see indeed a true picture of a real believer. How upright in his conduct! how forgiving to his enemies! how defirous to glorify God in his generation! how solicitous to be useful in the station wherein divine

providence had placed him! how thankful to his all-wife and gracious Lord for his afflictive dispensations! how humble in his acknowledgment of his having depended too much on a continued state of health, because he had been long highly favoured with so good a share of it; as if too unmindful that it was of the Lord's renewed mercy from day to day, that he had been so little exercised with sickness or pain! and oh how sweetly, amidst the abasing views he had of himself, does he express his considence in his covenant God, his thankfulness for divine supports under the rod, and his earnest desire to live henceforth, as one that is dying daily!

Such was the general state of his mind in sickness and health. He knew but little indeed of the world here below; but he was deeply versed in the things of the world to come. He acquired much learning ('tis true) of the dead languages, as at the feet of another Gamaliel; but he was a master of the language of Canaan; which none can teach but the Holy Ghost, and can be learnt no where else but in the school of Christ; "fitting (as Mary of old) at the master's feet." Thus enlighten'd and tanght by that "wisdom which cometh from above;" he was eminently qualified to teach others also. The great day only will disclose how very useful he was made, tho'

not a minister, to some who were in that sacred office; particularly to that chosen vessel, that zealous and successful champion in the public cause of God, the above-mentioned Mr Walker; whose name is had in remembrance, and his praise in all the churches, to this day; and will probably be 'till " time shall be no longer."

The Editor of this fhort account was requested to preach his funeral fermon; which he did in the parish-church of Padstow, to a numerous. attentive, and weeping audience; and which was attempted from the words of another aged faint. "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have feen thy falvation." Mr C- faw it also with the eye of faith; and embraced the bleffed Jesus with the arms of faith. Therefore, whilst "he lived, he lived to the Lord; and when he died, he died to the Lord." With him, no doubt, fudden death was Sudden glory; "absent from the body," he was in an inftant " present with the Lord." Bleff. ed exchange! "in the twinkling of an eve," translated from a pilgrimage of fin and forrow. of trials and temptations, "to an inheritance incorruptible, undefiled, and that fadeth not away; where there is no fighing nor tears; where

where the wicked cease from troubling, and where the weary are at rest."

N. B. Many excellent letters of this gracious person to his invaluable friend, the late Mr Walker, during his last illness are now in possession of the editor of this book, in the author's own manufcript; which, with the addition of many others written by eminent persons, who have died in the faith and are now in glory, shall be prepared for the press, and published in due time.

No. III.

THE Rev. T. B. Vicar of P. departed in the Faith at Bath, on the 30th of August 1790. After he was called, by divine grace, in the earlier part of his life, his thoughts were led to the work of the ministry. To which having been encouraged by his friends, the late Mr. Whitefield, Mr. Jones of St. Saviour's, and other eminent ministers of the gospel, with whom he was particularly intimate, and to whose spiritual advice, exemplary conversation, and public ministrations under God, he was peculiarly indebted; he entered at Magdalen-hall, Oxford, where after having spent some

fome time, he was ordained in the year 1760, to the curacy of Colwal in Herefordshire. But finding little or no fruits of his labours here, he came some time after to W----r; when he was led by a particular providence to preach at O---- and T----, about three or four miles from that city; at which time, a young man, (who has given me this part of the narrative) then an apprentice in W---r, having engaged in a party of pleasure on the Lord's day, was metby anold man, who press'd him to go with him to hear Mr. B. preach in the country, with which he complied; when he thought very ill of him, but he foon went again to hear him, and then his countenance feemed to him like that of an angel, whilft he read the prayers (having never heard any one read like him before; though he had been accustomed to attend at the Cathedral, and to hear the then bishop, prebendaries, &c.) but indeed Mr. B. was wont to read the service, to my knowledge, with that peculiar reverence and folemnity, which it demanded, when we consider that God who is therein addressed; and which, I am forry to fay, is too univerfally huddled over in a shame-

the exist of this and this section is the

la bay

ful manner; more as a mockery of the divine majesty, than a solemn worshipping him, in spirit and truth. But when Mr B. took his text from 2 Tim. iii. 4. "Heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God," it struck him to the heart; the Lord brought him down to his sootstool, crying for mercy; and a young woman, at the same time, who is now his wife, was overcome by divine power through his instrumentality. So evident indeed was the effect the word had upon both their minds, that many wondered.

But the work, through mercy, did not stop here; for, in the face of friends and foes, he continued to preach with faithfulness and zeal: and the Lord of all grace accompanied it with power and divine light breaking in upon the minds of many, who were in darkness and the shadow of death. And in a little time "so greatly grew the word of God and prevailed" on the hearts of finners, that they soon knew the privilege of the communion of saints. No wonder satan roared dreadfully, and stirred up the enemies of the church of Christ against this dear man of God, and his newly converted spiritual children; be cause one of those "that are said to turn the world

world upfide down was come hither alfo," Acts xvii. 6. Nevertheless the Lord reigned; and whilst the enmity of the serpent and his feed against the cause and people of God was earrying on, the Lord was also carrying on bis work; and gave his ministring servant more feals to his ministry, that shall be his "crown of rejoicing" in the great day of the Lord. From O---- and T----, he was removed to Sp----ly; where he continued preaching for fome time without any apparent fuccess among the parishoners; but the people from W----still followed him; let the weather have been what it might, whether it were rain or fun-shine, (" For the word of the Lord was precious in those days.") About this time, he opened his dwelling-house at W----, where he gave exhortations to the people; and like Paul, when he was at Rome, Acts xxviii. 30, 31. "in his own hired house" (at which many of our prudent people of the present day would shake their heads, and protest against such irregularity) "received all that came in unto him; preaching the kingdom of God, and teaching those things which concern the Lord Jefus Christ, with all confidence." And it was wonderful how set of the Carolin the chart uned there and

winning a

the Lord bleffed and shone upon his various

Many persons at this time being awakened to a concern for their fouls, he received all that came to him, to ask what they should do to be faved? In this labour of love he was much affifted; especially in examination of the state of the fouls of the women, by his true yokefellow, his first wife, and her fister, Miss Tre con both of whom were spiritual daughters of the late Rev. Mr. Walker of Truro, were deeply acquainted with experimental religion, and admirably fuited for familiar and ufeful conversation with young converts of their own. fex; they are both now in glory. Some little account of whose deaths I have recorded in the first volume of my Spiritual Register, 3d edition, pages 37 and 149.

In due time, it pleased the Lord to remove him to another part of his Vineyard; the vicarage of P—— in C——. To which charge he now confined his labours, and continued his ministrations, preaching salvation by faith alone in the blood and righteousness of the Lord Jesus Christ; till, after much illness and weakness

weakness of body, he could work no more. And being advised by the faculty to drink the Bath-waters, he refided in that city the last months of his life, till he was happily released from all his fufferings, and translated to glory. His loss was deeply felt by his most affectionate, faithful, and beloved widow; whose attention to him during their conjugal state, and particularly the whole time of his illness, was a striking pattern to her whole fex, and has justly endeared her to every one of his furviving friends. His only and beloved fon also (whom he had the happiness of seeing in the work of the miniftry, and highly honoured of the Lord) with two other dear children had to lament the loss of one of the tenderest and most affectionate And here amongst his numerous fathers. christian friends, to whom his memory will be ever dear, I must be permitted to express the deep concern I felt at the separation from my belovedand faithful friend and brother in Christ. with whom I had been united in the dearest bonds of intimacy and fellowship for thirty years, of whose gracious disposition, gentle manners, and exemplary life and conversation, I had been great part of that time an eye-witness. So that, from my own personal knowledge, I can faithfully

fully fay, to the glory of the grace of God, I have feen few persons more felf-diffident and humble; (literally esteeming others better than himself) more defirous of doing good to the fouls committed to his charge, or more concerned at the little fuccess he met with among his parishoners; -more faithful in his discourses in public, or more amiable and exemplary in adorning the doctrine of his God and Saviour, in his private life and conversation - neither courting the fmiles, nor fearing the frowns of the world; yet respected and had in reverence by even the careless and the formal; no wonder then that few were so esteemed and beloved by his christian friends, and fellow labourers in the gospel, in his life, that knew his value, or more lamented by them at his death. His lot was not exempt from the many tribulations we must pass through in the way to the kingdom. But " he despised not the chastening of the Lord, nor fainted when he was rebuked of him:" he received his afflictions from the Lord as a fruit of his fatherly love, and a proof that "he was not a baftard, but a fon." Heb.xii.4---8. He knew, and could bear testimony, that "tribulation works patience, and patience experience, and experience hope." and a manufactured and two its wort,

His

His whole conduct during his long painful disorder was a sermon to others about him, in private, after he had ceased from his ministerial labours in public. Through grace, he was enabled to submit to the will of his heavenly Father, in his afflictive dispensations, without murmuring; he "kissed the rod and knew who had appointed it." Micah vi. 9.

The fweet ferenity of mind he shewed during great pain proved to a demonstration the truth and reality of the evangelical doctrines he had preached; and that his profession had not been a matter of speculation, but the necessary result of his having been well taught in the school of Christ; or, to speak in the language of the Apostle of the Gentiles, "that he had not received it of man, neither was taught it (effectually and experimentally) but by the revlation of Jesus Christ." Full of that hope "which maketh not ashamed," a hope full ofimmortality, with a well-grounded confidence in Jesus, the ffing of death was taken out. He "knew in whom he believed, and was perfuaded that he was able to keep that which he had committed to him (his foul, his body, his all) against that day." 2 Tim. i. 12. No wonder then, that "his mind was kept in perfect peace, whilst thus stay'd on a covenant-God, because he trusted in him, even in the Lord Jehovah; for in him is everlasting strength." Isa. xxvi. 3, 4. No wonder, he longed to depart in peace "for his eyes had seen his salvation." Hence he said in his last hours to his beloved wise, on Thursday the 26th August, "My mind is perfectly at peace, I have not a doubt remaining." From that time, all was peace within, though pain without.

A diarrhæa, which could not be check'd, brought on a mortification. Saturday morning at three o'Clock he endured great agonies for an hour, and then fell into a doze, till roused by his son's arrival about ten. His changed countenance prepared them for what they were to expect. During that morning, many sweet and comfortable words dropp'd from his lips. In the afternoon he desired his dear son to pray with him, while his recollection lasted; as he said, and often repeated,

" Jesus, my All, to heaven is gone."

At the children's bed-time, he defired to see them, to bless them; which he did with great tendertenderness and fervor, "in the name of the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob;" kissed them repeatedly, and parted from them without agony. Then looking with the countenance of an angel, he repeatedly thanked Mrs. B. for all her tender care. Between nine and ten he took some little refreshment; but it was evident to thefe about his bed he would awake no more in this life; his dearest friends equally wishing and dreading the termination of his earthly existence, during a long period of thirty hours; when he yielded up the ghoft into his God and Saviour's hands, without the least struggle. The two afflicted mourners, his widow and his fon, (whose feelings on this awful occasion may be better conceived than expressed) at the same time that their hearts were pierced with forow at their irreparable loss, could not but return their united thanks to "the Lord, that giveth and taketh away;" that he, whom they loved fo well, was delivered from all the miferies which flesh is heir unto, and received into the arms of his beloved Jesus, who doth all things well: His fon at the same time prayed fweetly for the widow and the fatherlefs.

- It is to be remarked that my beloved friend and brother, the deceased, and subject of this little narrative, having had during his illness the care of the people, over whom he had been placed in C----, much upon his heart, feemed. like Sampson, (as his worthy Relief expressed herfelf, in a letter on this melancholy occasion to me) wishing to do more by his death, than he had by his life; and to leave them without excuse, by having a faithful messenger declare to them once more the whole counsel of God. By his earnest defire, his precious remains were deposited at P----, and Mr. G. accompanied his fon (who, through rich grace, fweetly, faithfully, and with fuccess, preaches the everlafting goipel, and treads in his bleffed father's steps; another Elisha in Elijah's room.) There Mr. G. fulfilled my dying friend's request, as is more particularly mentioned in the letter fubjoined; which, as it contains some additional circumstances to what I have above related, my dear friend, his fon, the writer of it, will excuse me for inserting; as the christian world at large and furviving acquaintance in particular, will find a testimony at once solemn and pleafing, edifying and confirming the faith of God's elect.

But

"My dear parene's last hours were calm and placid. I was called to him two days before his departure. I arrived the Saturday morning about 8 o'Clock; and found him much altered. Mrs. B. expressed her fears that a mortification in his bowels began that Morning, about 4 being preceded by a violent rigour, and producing great drowliness, which continued all that day. He was perfectly fentible all Saturday, and many fweet things dropped from him, when drowfinels permitted him to speak. I faid to him, What a mercy it is, that your mind is fo peaceful and happy!" he answered "Yes, it is; all my hope and help is from Jelus Christ, my Lord. The Apothecary, observing how drowly he was, faid, "I hope you will have forme comfortable fleep." With a finile of ineffable pleafure he looked upon him, and faid, "Yes, Mr. T. I hope I shall have some Sweet Sleep from ? laying a strong emphasis on the last breathing very hard life four o'clock, Morasow moraing, when his breath gradually laft him,

A friend called upon him foon after, whom he cautioned, left his family and butiness should draw off his heart from God. Afterwards complaining of loss of memory, he faid, "I forget every thing." The friend faid, "No, we waid won, it is to possess to the possess of the posses

you don't forget the Saviour." He answered. Me, never." And then repeated that verse.

" Jefus, my all, to heaven is gone:"

dwelling on and repeating the fecond line feveral times, and the historical slaved the di

"He whom I fix my hopes upon."

In the afternoon, the drowfiness increasing, he faid less, and seemed rather more uneasy in body. In the evening, he took a calm and affectionate farewell of his two dear babes *, and about ten, of me; gave me his bleffing, and concluded his farewell with faying with a fmile, "Perhaps I shall go off in my sleep." After this he spake but once, expressing pleasure at fomething that was given him to drink. About ten, on Saturday, he fell into a coma, and continued altogether motionless, without stirring hand or foot for 30 hours. Thus he lay breathing very hard till four o'clock, Mondaymorning, when his breath gradually left him, and his foul fweetly fell afleep in Jefus.

He defired to be buried in C. dear mother. They are now again united: right every thing." The friend faid. "No

His children by his fecond wife, now his widow.

their bodies in the dust, and their souls in glory. He expressed, on the Saturday, the sorrow he selt that his ministry at P. had been so little successful: and spoke with great pleasure of W----- seasons. He desired that Mr. G---- might preach to his people from Psalm lexisi. 25, 26. "Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth, that I desire beside thee: My stesh and my heart salleth, but God is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever." and I Cor. xv. "Thanks be to God who giveth us the victory," &c. Mr G. very kindly complied with his request, and went down with me. The congregations were large and attentive."

P. S. My late worthy friend above-mentioned had the privilege, while he was pursuing his studies in the country, preparatory to his entering at the university, of being acquainted with the late eminent servant of God, the Rev. Mr. Hervey, who lived in that neighbourhood, and whom he visited in his last illness, and followed to his grave; on which occasion he received the three following letters from two of his most valuable and faithful friends, the late Rev. Mr. Jones of St. Saviour's, Southwark, and the Rev. Mr. Whitesield, which I here subjoin.

D 2 "My

index bodies in the duff, and their fouls is glory. He expredied, on the se rearrance remove he

write another letter; for fometime I was unable to bear hardly the least ray of light to dark upon my eyes, owing to a violent inflammation. I was not able to read your letter when it came; nor for a confiderable time afterwards. Bleffed be God! who is righ in mercy to me, the vilest of the ransomed race, and has been pleased once more to restore me. Oh! that my fight, and every talent, might be employed for God! pray for me, my dear sir, that all afflictions and trials may be fanctified!

I little thought Mr. Hervey would take his flight so soon. If he be within the reach of prayer, may the dear Mediator grant him an easy passage to an happy eternity! may my dear friend B. and I profit by this dispensation, and watch unto prayer, that we may also be ready!

Oh! fir, what humility and unaffected piety was that feraphiek foul distinguished by! while he shewed how great heights of fanctification are attainable by his own reaching those heights. Would be have not filently upbraided such a wretch

wretch as me, who have been contented with infinitely lower advancements in the drvine life! God help us both to copy after him, or rather may we copy after Christ, and be meek and lowly, as that dear Saviour was! what a while it is fince I beard from you? why will you not write? don't be angry at my not answering; indeed, this time, illness prevented me. My dear brother, pray for me; and be affured I often remember you.

edilmay gandire ireal refs, chillian leveline.

My dear Sir,

battareb ton a son Most affectionately your's,

Dec. 21, 1758 to 101 ow ob , van the day of the

Y. ZAMOL .T. creature, intread of the Creater

and Redeemen, to whom alone we are to look it may we then follow on .BITESPARD YM ".

"I fincerely thank you (or rather defire to be thankful to God) for your last letter; there is a solemnity in it suitable to the awful occasion. I can only say at present, I wish to join my prayers with yours, that my life and my death may be like His. May you and I, my dear sir, learn from the dear, the venerable deceased, that sov'reign contempt of the world, which can only have place in that heart, which

D 3

is (totally) I had almost faid, however, principally given up to God, and whose affections are confequently placed on the things above. If I ever construed the Rev. Mr. Hervey right; deadness to the world, and deadness to felf, were principal ingredients in his composition, I mean his fpiritual composition; that new nature, which is now made, I doubt not, triumphantly perfect in the beatific vision. Oh! that God may make us, my dear, dear B. to be thus minded! may genuine meekness, christian lowliness, and unaffected humility, actuate these hearts of ours! we have feen what grace can do, by what it has done in that dear man. And, blessed be our dear Saviour, grace is not departed with our friend; nay, do we not offend in looking To much at the creature, instead of the Creator and Redeemer, to whom alone we are to look? may we then follow on to know this dear crucified Lord; and may his divine will be accomplifhed in us, even our fanctification! If I ever envied my dear B. any thing, I envy him the pleafing fight he was favored with of Mr. Hervey's dear remains. You attended him to his grave alfo-an honor this, Sir, which some eminent personages in the world would have been proud of, which some distinbefling an only have place in that heart, which

guished christians would have esteemed their privilege. Look upon this, (however feemingly accidental the circumstances might be that carried you thither) look upon this honor, (for fo I am perfuaded you'll esteem it) as a particular call from God to imitate, as far as in you lies, that holy man, whose sole delight feemed to be in the dear divine Immanuel. But more of this another time.

I have one favor to beg; and that is, that you procure me the best and the fullest intelligence of dear Mr. Hervey's conversation in his last illness, the circumstances of his latest hours especially. Here the gleanings are defirable; and I beg I may have them. They may, by our Saviour's bleffing, be of use in a trying hour to your loving brother, and fincerely affectionate friend in Christ Jesus,

Gafile Street. Dec. 30, 1758; T. JONES."

London, Jan. 2, 1759.

"I Think you was honored in being chief mourner at the funeral of one of the greatcit gospel-writers, that England ever faw.

alvoor takely users before his deads, fin-

D 4 Happy.

ple

Happy man! he is entered into the maffer's joy. may our latter end be like his! how the parsonages are to be disposed of, I do not hear. May the Lord Jesus direct! assurate? I hope the Lord Jesus will prepare you according to the preparation of the sanctuary. Prayer, reading, meditation, and temptation make a minister. I shall be glad to hear from you soon again, as being for the sake of our common Lord,

Dear Mr. B. god of toval and

Your's most affectionately

Y.W.P. Marti, the cartaridances of his fatelt

firsbles and I ber I may have them. They may, by our Saviora VI offing be of use in a

hours especially. Here the eleminic are de-

THOMAS BARNES died triumphantly in the Faith, at Bath, in the Year of our Lord 1787.

HE had been called, by the grace of God, about twelve years before his death, under the preaching of one of Lady Huntingdon's Students, at Minehead. Being naturally of a filent disposition, he was not much known in the religious world; though he was noticed by professors for his diligent attendance under the word; and even in the eyes of outward people.

ple, he walked so that he could not be charged, with bringing reproach on the gospel.

walledge colored Soon after the beginning of his last illness, he told a friend, "he was not long for this world, that he had a better world in view." And then spoke freely of the state of his mind for fome months past, complaining "of the wanderings of his heart from the Lord, and that he had sometimes been almost drove to despair; but added he had been let at liberty by the holy fpirit's application of these words to his foul, The blood of Jefus Christ cleanfeth from all fin; and then he could place his confidence on the Lord Jesus." One night after this, the enemy of his foul was particularly bufy with him; telling him that his fins were greater than those of David and Peter, occ. upon which a christian friend read to him the ayth and goth chapters of Isaiah, when faith was given to him more fixedly tolay hold on Christ; having never before feen fuch an excellency and fweetness in those chapters; he was filled with wonder, "that the Lord should pluck such a brand as himself out of the burning;" extolling, at the same time, " the unfearchable riches of the grace of Chrift felus his Lord and God." Indeed he would or name of was ever melity dis the often be expressing the deep-felt experience he had, in his heart, of the free grace and compleat salvation of Jesus. Very often in the night-season, (though in general much afflicted with excruciating pain) on the least intermission of his bodily sufferings, he was earnest in prayer, and would burst out into praise, and sweetly sing many of the hymns in Lady H——'s collection; such as,

"Free grace to ev'ry heav'n-born foul,"p.215.

"Jesus whose Almighty scepter," page 346.

And particularly a verse, page 232.

Oh! for this love let rocks and hills
Their lafting filence break;
And all harmonious human tongues
The Saviour's praifes speak."

If any persons sat up with him, that had little or in knowledge of the things of God, they would be assonished at his conversation, and his readiness in the scriptures. He would be frequently telling those around him, "he knew all was well, and that he longed to be out of the body." Indeed, each time when I visited him, his soul was ever melted with the love of God;

his conversation was like what we may judge that of a glorified spirit to be; and his very face had fuch a heavenly sweetness on it, that it might really be faid of him, that his countenance shone like that of an Angel. Many passages of scripcare he mentioned to ine, which had been peculiarly bleft to him; particularly the 12th chapter of Isafah, and the 73d Pfalm, the 25th and 26th verses, Whom have I in heaven but thee? and there is none upon earth, that I defire besides thee: My flesh and my beart faileth, but God is the Brength of my beart, and my portion for ever. But no passage appeared to have been more bleft to his foul abidingly, than the 1st and 2d verses of the 43d chapter of Isaiah, which he often defired might be his funeral-text; and which accordingly I chose for the subject on that occafion, in Lady H-'s chapel at Bath; viz.

But now thus faith the Lord that created thee, O facob, and be that formed thee, O frael, Fear not, for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name, thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burnt, neither shall the stame kindle-upon thee.

D 6

Oht

"Oh! what a glorious thing is it, faid he, to have fuch a Jesus, under all afflictions. trials, and distresses?" (and he had known what it was to fuffer many, in foul, and body, and circumstances) "this makes all happy, all peaceable, all ferene." In one conversation, he cried out three times, with the greatest rapture, " Free Grace, free Grace, free Grace ! that shall be my theme to all eternity. Oh! the unchangeableness of God!" " This, said one, is the rock of the believer's fecurity." "Yes, he replied, to support my foul, and all that truft upon vit? by Attanother time, being in spiritual darkness, these words were much bleft wilhis foul, & De are dead, and your life is bid with Christ in God, when Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall je also appear with bim in glory mleanle a - Higher in hold But now thus fairly the Lord that created

On the funday morning before his death, he fent for a friend to talk unto about his foul; when he observed to hitn, "that he had been under great temptation on the saturday night, to doubt his interest in Christ, and that he had no part nor lot in the matter;" but, whilst he was speaking, he seemed quite transported, and said, "the Lord hath given me the victory."

tory." In the course of that day he said, "He knew Jesus was still his; he was returned; he was the chief of ten thousand, and altogether lovely;" and was often breaking out, even in the midst of his dying agony, extolling the preciousness of Christ, and "rejoicing that he should be soon with him." Now he sweetly sung that hymn, page 181.

We have a true friend;

His goodness endures

The same to the end. &c."

He answered All was well, when any one asked him how it was with him? "Christ, says he, is precious; all is free grace." He sung,

("As at his dear mafter's feet.)

A debtor to mercy alone"

He faid, "he could give up his wife and children to Him, who had promifed to be a father to the fatherless, and a husband to the widow." He told a friend, "he had been looking for whose words in the Bible, a The Lord our righteousness; and now, says he, I have found them; blessed be God, my inherit-

ance is in heaven, kept there for me, and out of the reach of men and devils."

On funday evening his mind was still stayed upon God; and he found Christ his precious friend. When any one said, "You find Christ your friend now?" He said, "I do, I do:" with smiles, yea with raptures.

Throughout all the night he continued very comfortable in his mind; though at times he was somewhat delirious, yet always in a very serious frame. About four o'clock on the monday morning, he took the hymn-book, and looked for the hymn, page 366.

"The world can neither give nor take;

Nor can they comprehend
That peace of God which Christ hath bought,
That peace which knows no end."

He then faid, "All things were ready, he should foon be with Jefus." The words in the fame hymn,

"His love is constant as the fun," at lool

gave him inexpressible comfort. At half an hour

hour after feven, with his dying lips, he broke out finging,

"Free grace can death itself outbrave,
And take its sting away;
Can souls unto the utmost save,
And them to heav'n convey."

At eight o'clock, he faid to his wife, "Farewell! I am going." She faid to him, "Is Christ precious?" "Yes," he replied; as long as he could speak. After this, perceiving his lips moving, she put her ear close to his mouth, and heard him faintly whispering, "Glory, Glory, Glory." She once more said, "Is Christ still precious to your soul? If he is, wave your hand." He immediately waved both his dying hands, and continued to do so till within two minutes of his decease; when his body sunk down in the bed; and his soul into the arms of his beloved and altogether precious Jesus.

over and then carried twee with handard a doep and able to the contract and the contract of the

CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR O

han spot of the bard saving a far charle to No.

No. V.

A Child, at the age of five years, having feen his aunt on a death-bed, and hearing her talk frequently of the things of God, and of His having called her under the ministry of the Editor, at Spa-Fields, about a year before, was very defirous of hearing me preach at that chapel; and being impressed with ferious thoughts under the word, made it his almost confrant practice to attend the preaching of the goffiel there in all weathers, (though it was about a mile from his father's house) from that time till his last illness; which issued in death on Good Friday 1789, being then ten years and nine months old. But it was in the furnmer preceding his death, that he appeared to be effectually called by the grace of God, under a fermon I preached in the open air at Moorfields, one Lord's day in the afternoon; tho' fatigued and ready to faint with the intolerable heat, he could not leave the place till all was over; and then carried away with him fuch a deep and abiding fense of fin, and experience of the power of God, as he never had felt before, and which continued in him to the last.

from

From that time he could not bear to hear any preaching, but the pure goffel; infomuch that at one time when he was defired to go to a church in his neighbourhood, a person observing to him that he had been sitting in the great pew belonging to the churchwardens, he replied, "That will not do for me; I want good preaching; I will go there no more."

He was always delighted at the the fabbath; and when he was defired to take a walk for fresh air on that facred day, he replied to a friend, "I want no fresh air; and you would think fo too, if you knew what had been breathing upon me to day," alluding to the divine influences of the Holy Spirit. His greatest treat at home was to be permitted to fit up some time after the other children were gone to bed, to read his bible; and fo fond was he of that ineftimable book. that every scrap of paper he could pick up was immediately filled with a paffage out of the holy scripture: vast numbers whereof were found in different parts of the house after his death. A person once saying, it would make him melancholy to be very religious; he anfwered, "People are only melancholy for want of knowing what is good," him a

2002

As foon as he was confined of his last illness. the faculty that attended him had little or no hopes of him; but all around him were convinced that he not only himself expected, but even wished for death, if it was the will of God. For when he was very ill in bed, and a Gentlewoman, a particular friend, often looked in upon him, watching left he should fall into a fit, he said, "I wish I was in my coffin." She replied, "My dear, do you wish to die?" "O yes, heanswered, 'I long to be with God, for I know my Jefus has a crown of glory for me." When his mother was told of it, and he faw her weep, having been uncommonly attached to her from his infancy, he could not bear to fee her fo affected, but begged " she would rejoice, for he should be an angel foon." At another time he faid, he was "forry he had ever been at a certain great school, as it was a wicked place; for the bigger boys made the little boys Iwear dreadfully, and he had been often quite frightened at himfelf; but that another boy and he had agreed to beat each other till they should leave it off." Such was his hatred of fin, tho' in a legal state; and little knowing, that nothing will make us leave fin but the grace of God! He could not bear any one should call him a good.

As

good boy; for he faid "he had been a bad boy, but that he knew God would pardon him; for one drop of Christ's blood was sufficient to wash the devils clean, if the Lord pleased." He then defired to have the parable of the Ten Virgins read, and other felect passages of scripture; converfing also at the same time in an amazing manner to those about him.

Hearing that the King was going to St. Paul's to return public thanks to God for his late recovery from his alarming illness, he said, "he should soon see a more glorious company, and behold the King of Kings." When he was told of a relation, that had just at that time died in the country, he faid, "I wish I could fay, he was gone to heaven; but this I can fay, I shall die foon, and I know I shall go to heaven."-One faying to him he should like to have fuch a bed-gown as he had on, he answered, " you may have it foon, for I shall then wear a better;" meaning, an heavenly robe. Taking a glass of water, when he was in a burning heat, and knowing that the Lord could blefs the flightest means, he faid, "God can bless this water, if he please, to my recovery."

jeyful capactation for any arrival, he

ried out, when a cosch floor, "There he is."

Four days before his departure, he told his mother, "I find it hard to climb up the ladder; but I am above half way up, and I fee Jesus at the top; Oh how he loves me! but there is a heap of things, that would pull me back, if they could." At another time, one said, "Do you believe?" he answered, "Yes, stedfastly." To a little schoolfellow he observed, that his father had given him some guineas the day before, to take his medicine; but said he, "what are they, to one grain of grace? I have seen a golden crown, but I am not quite ready for it."

Two days before he died, he was asked if he would have a minister to come to him, he said, "O yes;" and when he was defired to mame what minister he chose, he replied, "Mr.W.—s. the last time I heard him preach was in Moorfields; and I found it very sweet." Accordingly I was sent for. He said, "When he comes, I should like to receive the sacrament with him." A person said, he would do Mr. W.—'s heart good, to hear him speak thus; "Ay, he answered, and it will rejoice my heart to see him. And I shall be so glad to see him, that I must shake him heartily by the hand." Waiting in joyful expectation for my arrival, he cried out, when a coach stop't, "There he is."

But when he heard I was from home, preaching at a confiderable distance from my house, he was much grieved. Those about him telling ...him they would try and get me To morrow; "What day is To-morrow!" he faid; he was told, Good Friday. A Good Friday, indeed! he replied; of for that is the day Christ died for us;" he then defired his fifter to read the gospel for the day. "Ah, said he, it was at the Sepulchre Jesus took off all my fins;" alluding to a passage in the Pilgrim's Progress. On the Good Friday, after uttering with his dying lips the Lord's Prayer he concluded with a hearty Amen. Then after a confiderable paufe, he faid,"Mama, I have done fomething more." When the afked him what it was? he answered, "I have been praying for you all. At Twelve o'Clock he fell afleep in Jesus, and his prayers, we trust. were turned into praises even the praises of God and the Lambfor ever and ever.

Thus we see another instance, that our Lord out of the mouth of babes and sucklings hath persected his praise."

taken flight our of my body at high strume

foul, I fell upon the ground; and which in or earth, I fell upon the body, I can hardly tell (vor a trink my

at the day of see No. VL privile to stage

Birt where he heart. I was from times, possed

MR. LANCASTER, who had attended my miniftry for some time, and was a Member of the Society, departed this life in the triumph of faith, January 31st. 1792.

The former part of his Experience we bave in his own words, as follows,

" A FTER two years and half deep convictions, which the Lord was pleafed to work in me, by his bleffed spirit, of my sad state by nature, it pleafed him in February 1772, to give me a ray of the light of his countenance, which a little warmed my foul, more than ever I experienced before, and let me to examine whether I was one of God's children? After the Lord had enabled me to examine myself about a fortnight, he wonderfully shone upon my foul, as I was going through the Park to Blackheath--fuddenly the Lord broke in upon me, as I was reading Erskine's Paraphrase on the Song of Solomon; I found fomething struggling within, as though my poor foul was going to take a flight out of my body --- In this triumph of foul, I fell upon the ground; and whether in or out of the body, I can hardly tell (for I think my body

thody was senseles just then;) but this I know, heaven was as it were open to my view. I saw God my Father reconciled by the death of his dear son, Christ Jesus my Lord; I saw and expected the realities of the other world, and drank of the sountain of the water of life freely.

"I was on the ground about the space of a quarter of an hour; when I got up, I was going forward, but forgot where; fo was obliged to come home again --- but O! between that place and my home, verily my foul was all in a flame. I was brought out of darkness into marvellous light, and into the glorious liberty of God's dear children, then I found the bleffed fpirit witneffing with my spirit, that I was born of God; yea, that was my birth-day, for furely I was then born again-the whole creation was altered to my fight and fenfe---- I faw that here was no continuing city; no, I now began to feek one to come, my foul was athirst for God, yea for the living God; I was not contented to drink at the streams, but longed to enjoy the fullness of pleasure at his right-hand. Then did I groan being burthened, not to be unclothed, but clothed upon, that mortality might be swallowed up of life: thus were my defires taken off the things of time, and fense as unworthy of my regard, and placed on things above above. What a place did this world then appear to my happy foul! then I could despite every thing that was, or is, called good and great in the world; I knew then that I had a treasure in heaven, where neither moth nor ruft could corrupt, and my heart was with my treasure; for where the treasure is, there the heart will be also. Then I could triumph, and fing in the language of the new Jerusalem, " Jefus bath loved me and given himself for me." then, O then, had I full affurance through faith, by grace, that he loved me, and washed me from my fins in his own most precious blood; then I drank of the water of life; and never, fince that time, have I thirsted after any thing that this world can afford; no, it is, asmy bleffed Jesus faith, a well of water in my " fort, which will fpring up into everlasting life;" though now I am in the world. I am not of it: I am passed from a death of fin unto a life of righteousnels, by the faith of the for of God. My Jefus has prayed for me, that I may be kept from the evil of the world-bleffed be the days that my eyes then faw ! Oh, it is comfort in diffress; having this affurance, whom once he loves, he never leaves, but "loves them to the end," he "refts in his love" towards me. thenwartny of any regard, and placed on things

Secret

and "hates putting away." Now I know that I was chosen in him before the foundation of the world. I am called by grace, and belief of the truth; I am a partaker of the blessed golden chain, which is described in the Romans, 8th chap. He loved me from all eternity, his love is from everlasting to everlasting unto them that fear him, and his righteousness upon childrens children. "My beloved is mine, and I am his:" O how de I long for his glorious appearing!

"I long to share the happiness
Of that triumphant throng,
Who swim in seas of boundless bliss
Eternity along.

Who, crown'd with glorious rays, the Thro' radiant files of angels—fore the And rival them in praise."

"Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come! as the weary hart panteth after the water-brooks, so panteth my soul after thee, O my God: why art thy chariot wheels so long, why are they so long in coming? hold out faith and patience Vol. III.

yet but a little while, and my Jesus, that shall come, will come and will not tarry; whom have I in heaven but Thee? and blessed be thy name for thy grace, that there is nothing that I desire on earth, but the light of thy blessed countenance. Lord lift it upon me continually!"

must be the most commendative of main

Lord, what is man, that thou art mindful of him; or me, poor finful me, that thou shouldest thus bless me with a little heaven here below, in the enjoyment of thy love and favour! Lord, what are ten thousand thousand worlds to one look, one smile, from thy sweet face? the beauty of thy face has stained all the fading glory that this world can produce. Thy prefence is heaven here below; what other heaven can there be, than to have thee, my dear God, in my soul? O wonderful condescending love!

O fweet Jesus, O precious Christ! this is heaven enough. Lord, stay thy hand, my soul can hold no more: O enlarge me; I am full, it is enough, my frail nature cannot bear it; I long to be with the Lord; take me up to Thee; come my Jesus, come, take my soul; O I want

to be swallowed up in thy fullness, and eternally to enjoy Thee. O the riches of redeeming grace, of dying love! O bleffed cross, what bleffings hast thou purchased! O Lord, what am I! a worm of earth, but dust and ashes, but nothing, but vanity! and yet, fure, it is not a delution? Do I not feel Thee, the hope of everlasting glory, springing up in my soul? O Lord, what or who am I, or my father before me, that I should be favoured thus! O let not the world ever any more have place in my heart or affections. O thou fairest among ten thousand, thou altogether lovely Jefus! -- Jefus! O the fweet found, O the lovely name! it is as ointment poured forth; ointment cannot compare with the fweets of the lovely name of Jesus, my Lord, and my God; he will fave me from my fins, yea he bas removed them as far as the east from the west; and as high as the heavens are above the earth, fo great is his love towards me. Ohe will never leave me, he abideth faithful for ever, he cannot deny himself; and let me never think of fuch a thing, he cannot lie; no, he will bring

E 2

me unto the tree of life in the Paradife above. What! diffrust so dear a Saviour as this! how can it be? Lord thou knowest, methinks, I could fooner die first, than deny thee: Thy will be done, bleffed Jesus! I shall be kept by thy mighty power, through faith, unto everlasting falvation .- O Lord, is this thy love that thou bearest to such poor hell-deserving sinners as I am? Lord, as it is free, O let poor finners know I feel the realities of what I now enjoy; let all the world know of this bleffed falvation. Thou art able and willing to fave; let it found from shore to shore. Q how little art thou known in the world! O that all the ends of the earth may fee the falvation of my God! O the joy of believing! O the bleffed fight of a reconciled God and father, through Christ Jesus, by the blessed fpirit!

"Who would not tread the way
Where Jefus' footsteps shine;
Who would not own the pleasing sway
Of charity divine?"

"I have redemption in his blood, even the forgiveness of all my sins; there is now no condemnation to me; I am in Christ Jesus; who shall lay any thing to my charge? it is God that

that justifieth me, who is he that shall condemn? it is my Jesus that has died, yea, has risen again.

"Amazing love beyond degree,
Th' offended dies, to fet th' offenders free."

"Whom having not feen (with bodily eyes) I do love; in whom though now I fee him not, yet believing in his name, through the grace he has given me, I do rejoice, with joy that is unspeakable and full of glory. Bleffed be his name for faith! unto them that believe, he is precious indeed. What manner of love is this. that thou hast bestowed upon me? Lord, who am I, that I should be called a fon of God. an heir of falvation? All things are mine; life, death, things prefent, things to come; I am Christ's, Christ is God's. God is mine, my everlasting treasure, my portion for evermore: though heart and strength should fail, yet he is the strength of my heart, and my portion for ever; he is my God for ever and ever, and he will be my guide even unto death. He has all things to give, and will withhold nothing from me. A kingdom is mine, it is his good pleafure and unmerited love, to give me a kingdomno water can drown me, he will be with me there; no fire can hurt me, he will be there :-

E 3

he made the fire and water, and they are at his unlimited command; though all the devils in hell, and all the rage of men on earth, combine together, they cannot hurt me, the very hairs of my head are all numbered. I shall by his strength go on through all oppositions, and at last come off more than conqueror, through the blood of the dear Lamb, over all my enemies; and at the end receive a crown of life, which God, the righteous judge, shall give me in that day——fly on ye moments, roll on ye years, and hasten the time of my departure."

"Till then I will not let thee rest Until thou hear my strong request; And this my daily prayer shall be, Lord, sound the trump of jubilee."

"Unto God be all the glory for ever."

The following were some of his last sayings;

"Bleffed is the man that trusteth in the Lord, whose hope is in the God of Jacob. Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

Our light afflictions, which are but for a moment, work for us a far more and exceeding weight of glory." When his wife was wiping

wiping, off the death-sweat from his face, he faid, "My dear, Jesus with his fost hand will foon wipe away every tear from mine eyes."

"He is a God of fov'reign love, That promis'd heav'n to me: And taught my foul to foar aloft Where happy spirits be.

Take me home, O my God. O death, where is thy fling ?" and Managing Sons Close

the lot stay O world () for a

Lashy No. VII. SARAH had from 12 Years of age been a Daughter of affliction; yet the care foe took of her afflicted Mother was firiting to all that knew her. Her laft illness was but nine days; and the following account is taken from her experience and testimony the three last days of ber life.

N Thursday, January 8th, 1789, she was asked how she did? she answered, "Going home." " Are you happy in your foul?" She replied in the affirmative; and added, E 4 "We stud A

"We shall appear in white robes, with palms in our hands, and crowns on our heads." The day following when a friend said, It was evident she would not be long here, and enquired what was the ground of her hope? she said, "None but Christ." Being asked whether she shad any thing to recommend herself to him, she said "No, she was a vile sinner, but he was the Saviour of such." Being very weak, and having discharged a great quantity of blood at her nose and mouth, she soon repeated, in a very low voice,

" Guide me, O thou Great Jehovah," &c.

And went through the whole hymn: after fome pause, she added her favourite hymn,

" Jesu' Lover of my soul," &c.

And with great ecstacy of soul express'd these words,

"Hide me, O my Saviour, hide
Till the ftorm of life is past."

After this, with sweet composure, she repeated these lines,

"And when to that bright world I rise, And claim my mansion in the skies,

Above

Above the rest this note shall swell, My Jesus hath done all things well."

When she was asked in the afternoon of the fame day, how she was? she answered, " Blessed is the foul whose God is the Lord - You do not know what joy I have received this day. The world knows nothing of it .--- I am going, as fast as time can carry me." Her constant breathings were, Bleffed Jesus! dear Jesus! Lord, fave me !" The evening before her death, a friend prayed with her, and begging her to look up to the Lord for momentary strength; she faid, "Jesus is precious." She remained in a very composed state of spirit till about 4 o'Clock on the Lord's day-morning; when her mother, who had lain down by her, awakening, and feeling her hand, found it cold, and faid, " My Sally!" she made no reply. But when her mother got up to call affistance, perceiving her near death, she heard her fay, "O Lordy. my Lord!" when the instantly fell asleep without a groan; and entered into that eternal rest which remaineth for the people: of God and case of dones only end ye hand No trong of the state beat I had

F 5

group didence from the charely establic net not a more convented cluck.

IN.

The two following narratives were transmit by the New Min Wildbone - No. VIII.

REVEREND SIR,

In the Summer 1780, I went to P----, at the request of a few friends at G-----, saying that Mr. Wesley's preachers had made attempts to preach there for more than twenty years, and never had succeeded; through the prejudice of the minister of the Parish, who had resided many years there; He left this world to give up his account within the last two or three years. When the time appointed for my preaching there was known, and we met according to appointment, the bells were set a ringing by the order of the minister, with all the noise the ringers could make.

The same minister had procured a drum, and insisted that his own servant-boy should beat it before a mob consisting of men, women and children, shouting and hallowing: and all this was to drown my voice, from being heard by those who came to hear the preaching: I stood upon a table out of doors, at no great distance from the church, as there was not a more convenient place.

We began with finging, and then prayed. I then read my text from Judges 3d chapter, part 20th verse, "I have a message from God unto thee." In the beginning I could with difficulty hear my own voice; but the house of Saul grew weaker, and the house of David fronger, The ringers grew weary, the drum was nearly burft; the shouting became feeble, and the battle proved all on the Lord's fide: before this there was not one ferious inhabitant belonging to the place, though many might be moral and respectable persons; the ice was now broke and fatan got the worft; a young woman heard the word, and felt the power of it; and, like the woman of Samaria, became a preacher herfelf to her neighbours and relations : from this time, a door was opened for the gofpel; and feveral of Lady H's fludents occasionally preached there without any diffurbance; as did yourfelf also, Rev and dear fir, when providence called you to labour in the West of Cornwall a few years after, in your journey through the country. When students could not be obtained, the people got Mr. Wy's preachers, and not without profit attending their labours: the young woman lived to fee a religious fociety established, and a small preaching-house erected, E 6 About

about two years ago; and then left this world for a better, and died bappy in the Lord.

The person who preached there in 1780, above-mentioned, had been out of Cornwall a few years; and when he returned in the fummer 1703, he was defired to preach in their new fmall preaching-place: one who is now an exhorter among them, was the very person who beat the drum, being then a fervant to the minister of the Parish. One also of the ringers. who is now a ferious respectable Farmer, told me "his conscience was greatly distressed all the time they were ringing; and even thought at the very time the bells would fall and crush them in pieces." The father of the young woman met me at the door, after preaching; and declared, that their fociety rose from that beginning in the year 1780; that his daughter was made the happy inftrument of much good in her family and in the Parish: and gave me hearty welcome to preach to them whenever I came that way. " What hath God wrought!"

W. B. T. B. W. And the second of the land

chaplished; and a fingly me aching her to greated.

The following account is respecting a young woman, Miss E.C. in Flushing, who had been in a consumption many months, before she left this vale of tears: communicated by the same minister.

HE week after I returned into Cornwall in the spring 1793, I was defired to see this young person, by her fifters, though she herself was utterly, against it; as they have fince informed me: I spoke to her, but she made me no answer: I went to prayer with her, and then left her; this was on the 1st and 2d of April, 1703. She continued till Saturday evening, apparently unconcerned; when the faid to one of her fifters, "I am dying; but that is not the worst; I am a lost sinner; eternity! eternity!" She then enquired " what that expression was, that she heard the minister use in prayer on the Thursday, " that who soever cometh, be will in no wife cast out?" Her fifters proposed to fend for a ferious neighbour to pray with her; the faid, " No, none should come but the minister who was there on the Thursday:" while I was fent for, she defired her fifter to read one of Mr. Hervey's letters; after the letter was read, she observed "That Mr.

Mr. Hervey was a good man; but she was a poor wretched sinner:" she then added, "If she were saved, the same love of God in Christ that he had, and the same precious blood and righteousness that he found in Christ, must be the same to her; for both, she said, must be saved in the same way." Looking at the bible, she said to her sister; "That precious book I have long neglected."

When I came to see her the same evening, she was much distressed and asked, "if there were a possibility of her salvation?" After some conversation and prayer, I left her: she was still in much distress the whole night, and asked her sister, "If God would be just to save such a sinner as she was?" when one ignorantlysaid, "If one so young as she was should be asraid to die, what would become of old wicked sinners?" she answered, "I am young in years (being 24 years of age) but old, old in sin." (Though her life had been strictly moral in outward conduct.)

Next morning, being the fabbath, she was still in distress; one, who attended her in her sickness, proposed to send for——who held the doctrine of Universal Redemption: she answered

. Mi

fwered,"No;"adding,"the performay be a good man; but the Lord had fent her a minister to lead her foul to a compleat Saviour, and the one might undo what the other had been doing;" or words to that effect. The same afternoon about 2 o'Clock, I went to her bed-fide, fhe was still in fore distress. I went to prayer, and felt for her distressed situation, and intreated the Lord to reveal himself as her God in Christ Jesus, that she might have a Pisgah's view of the promifed land; and as foon as prayer was over, the role up on the bed, and putting her hands together, faid very earnestly, "Now I am ready to die! Christ is precious, Christ is precious! Welcome death, Welcome death! Iam ready, I am ready!"

After I was gone, she enquired what day it was? she was answered it was the Sabbath. "O, says she, if I die this day, it will be a Sabbath indeed." When the clock struck sometime after; "One hour more is gone, and I am not yet with my precious Redeemer." Her mother standing by her bed-side weeping; she said, "O mother, why do you weep? cannot you spare me now?" Her mother expressing her wishes for her to be spared longer; she replied "No"

"No, mother, I would not live to be a Queen upon the Throne." On the Monday, she would be frequently feeling if the pulse was about to stop, and asked the Doctor some questions about the pulse before disfolution; desiring him "not to be affraid to tell her, for the longed for the happy happy moment." Some few hours before the departed, the faid, "Thefe" eyes, that have been fo fond of seeing, will foon be closed; this tongue, that was never wearyof folly, will foon be filent; this wicked deceitful breaft, wherein is so much pride, will foon moulder in the dust." At another time the faid, "The Lord loved me before I was born; I am a veffel of mercy, and never knew it till now." When speaking of her funeral, the defired "that the minister might chuse such a fubject as might lead to let forth the exceeding greatness of her salvation:" and intreated her fifters to shew kindness to him for her sake; and would be faying, "the Lord fent him on purpose into Cornwall for her foul's falvation." About 11 o'Clock on Monday evening, she departed; repeating frequently these words just before, "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly!" and fweetly fell afleep in the Lord.

a leker from the Rev. M. Muan No. IX.

On the effectual calling and death of the late Mr. S---- of H-----

R. S --- was an Innkeeper of independant fortune, about 50 years of age, when I first knew him, in July 1788, and had retired from business about three years. He was one very much respected in his populous neighbourhood, and had the hearts of all the poor, among whom he was charitable, to a proverb. But he enjoyed a very indifferent share of health, which was one reason of his retirement from bufiness. When I was first introduced into his company, it was by Doctor B. who attended him, and was on the point of giving him up in the last stage of a confumption. After some conversation between the Doctor and his Patient, the former faid, "I am persuaded, fir, that it is out of the power of man to be of any real fervice to you; and therefore as an honest man, I must advise you to set your affairs in order for death! (and added,) my friend prefent is a minister, who would be happy in going to prayer with you, if agreeable: to which he replied, "I shall have no objection to the gentle-

man

man reading a good prayer by me; and if I musticle, I must; we can't live for ever." The family was then convened together, and a prayer-book brought, &c. But I prayed, as the Lord directed me, and found great liberty. While in prayer, the Lord was pleased to send home that passage with power on the heart, in Matt xx. 6. And at the eleventh bour he went out, and found others standing idle also, &c.

On the close of the prayer, it could not but affect every one present to see how he was affected. It was nearly 15 minutes before he could to far recover himfelf, as to speak intelligibly. I confess I was pleased to see him so far concerned about the importance of eternal things, but did not promise myself too much pleasure, as I had so often seen such fair blosfoms blafted and come to nothing: however, leaving him in the hands of God, I took my leave; and with the Doctor proceeded on to B .-- m, whither we were going: after this, we were met by a person who was directed to say Mr. S ---- wished to speak to me; and when I faw him, it was to fay, "he wished I would come, and tell him and his family fomething more of Jesus Christ." I therefore engaged to come

come over on the morrow, and give him a fermon in his house; and at the appointed time I came; when I found an incredible concourse of people furrounding the house; so that with fome difficulty I got in. After some converfation, I went out in the midft of them, flood facing the window of his appartment, and preached from Matt. xxv. 46. Thefe shall go away into everlasting punishment, &c. The opportunity was altogether folemn; and the mafter of the house heard and trembled! On my coming down, he faid, "For the Lord's fake, come and fee us again, and preach the latter part over again;" which I complied with, the Tuesday following, to a still greater multitude than before; and when I came this time, I found him very much recovered. Under the difcourse of this evening, he found his interest in Christ, and experienced the blessings of his atonement. " O (faid he, on my coming down) what has Jesus done for us in shedding his precious blood to ranfom fuch a poor finner as me, from the bitter pains of eternal death! what is there in us to move him to love us? if all are like me, there is nothing to be found in us, but what is worthy of eternal death; but there is every thing in him to engage our love. though

though we shut our eyes to his beauty. I have feen more to-night, while you have been preaching, than I have ever feen before in my whole life. I have feen myfelf undone, without pardon; and I see there is pardon for allmanner of fin, that ever I have committed, to be had for asking for, through the blood of-Christ. O that all these my poor neighbours did but know and believe the fame! Pray come again, try to convert as many as possible of them to God; and he'll reward you for your kindness:" He was so pressing that I promifed to preach there the Sunday following, in the evening; and fo established two lectures in the week from that time. Thus was the gofpel introduced into H----, which has maintained its footing amidst various changes ever here he produced a consistence being that I

As my friend Mr. S---- kept on recovering, he began with greater seriousness to view the state of the populous village; and therefore said to me one day, "It gives me the greatest concern to think of the many poor souls who have week after week been besotted in my house, ruining their samilies, and ripening themselves for hell; and to think that I should

be witness to such things, and yet not have grace to reprove, nor attempt to reform them! 'till they funk one after another into the grave; and not a minister in all the place to found the alarm of God in their ears. O fir! if you could think of fettling among us to preach the gospel to the poor, though here is no living to tempt you by, yet I am fure God would not fuffer you to want; and I think it is practicable to build a chapel in the place, for the better accomodation of your hearers; (who in wet weather were too numerous for a private house) I will freely give land to build on, and fifty pounds on laying the foundation; and doubt not but God will find ways to get the rest." I advised him to weigh the matter well, and consult the Lord in prayer; as many had began well, and had afterward been discouraged, and even repented of hafty conclusions, though in laudable purfuits? and therefore I wished him to count the cost, lest it should be bis case: he thanked me for the advice; and faid, "he would confider it farther." Soon after this he was feverely reproached by an intimate acquaintance, for opening his house to such methodist-fellows; who observed, that it very ill became a man of his stamp to countenance any thing of the kind.

To

To this, my friend replied, "I cannot dispute for God, but I can judge for myself; and therefore I conclude it very ill becomes any man to reject the gospel of Jesus, by whomsoever it is brought; and am determined to give my Jesus and his gospel house-room, while I can call a house my own."

In a few weeks after he faid to me in a very ferious tone, " My friend, it will not do for us to dwell in ceiled houses, and God have no house, nor fo much as a tent among us; this is not acting our part, or improving our talent. I have thought on your well-meant advice; and instead of 50, I intend to devote 500, towards this work; and if that falls short, to double it; and then I shall be but an unprofitable fervant, when I have done all. As to what my friends may think, I hope I shall be strengthened to go forward, without ever being discouraged in his work; fince what I purpose doing, is not to gain an empty name, but to gain fouls to my dear Jesus. Ah! was it in my power, I would bring all to the knowledge and enjoyment of his love; but I feel this is beyond the power of man; for none could have subdued my prejudice, and opened my heart, but He that first

made it. All the property I enjoy is what I have acquired by industry in the neighbourhood; and therefore as it is the Lord that gives us power to get money, he has the greatest right to the use of it; and where can it be better laid out, or more properly, than among my poor neighbours, where it was collected?" Having made up his mind on the business, plans and estimates were delivered in; but prior to the foundation being laid, a gentleman in the neighbourhood stepped forward, as a partaker in the great work, and became responsible for one half of whatever was laid out. From this circumstance, the plan was enlarged; and the intention was to build a minister's house, and freeschool, as wings to the chapel; but the chapel being most wanted, that was begun first; aud from the two patrons uniting in the costs, it was called the Union Chapel. The remainder of the plan however has never been executed; for when the chapel was nearly fit for opening, Mr. S ---- had a return of his complaint, and was carried off triumphantly, in a few weeks, to everlafting glory.

N.B. When he felt his dissolution coming on, he ordered that he might be carried down to have

have one fight more of the chapel, which was done: and when he came into it, he looked round about; and after a long paufe, he faid, "Well, it is a commodious building for the purpose; but the beauty of it will appear when God fills it with his glory; and when it shall be faid in heaven, This man, and that man, was born then. May the Lord confecrate the walls of this building to himself, and make it to many fouls a house of bread! Here are near 3000 fouls within a mile of this spot, and if one fourth part are induced to hear the word, this place will comfortably accomodate them." On his return home, he retired to his room, and though he lingered many days, he never came out of it again, till he was carried out a corpse. I was with him as much as possible, during his last illness, and must confess I never saw more fweetness and composure in the view of death; he would frequently lament "that his house should ever have been the high way to death to fo many! that his master's name should have been blasphemed so often in his hearing, without feeling at that time the least disposition to reprove vice." He would often fay, "If all the world did but know the love of my dear Jesus, they would hate sin more than ever they loved

loved it." One day when a friend in converfation observed, that "not many rich were called;" he replied, "Tis all God's mercy that any of them are called; and I'll watrant, if any are called to feel the love of my dear Saviour, they will no longer treasure up their canker'd gold, when his fervice requires its circulation." often lamented to the last the inconsistencies of unfteady christians, who, like the Athenians, were always in fearch of something new: "These (he would fay) defeated their own intentions, by casting a stumbling-block in the way of their blind neighbours, whom they were defirous of bringing to the knowledge of falvation; and therefore he should rejoice to see a more heavenly walk, and less talk among professors."
When reproved by a relation one day for finking to much of his property in building a. chapel; he replied, "It is better laid out fo than in a play-house, though you would have joined me in the latter: Ah! my dear friend, God is the best banker; he gives undeniable security, with an hundred per cent here, and life everlafting hereafter." One day he faid to me; "On my retirement from bufiness, I promised myself much pleasure in following my favorite amusements: but all my life was a dream till the Lord awoke Vol. III. me

me out of sleep, and revealed pleasures that I had never thought of before; nor would I part with their blessed realities for all the empty phantoms, called happiness by the world." A few Days prior to his Death, he urged me to accept a sum of money, in token of his respect, and in consideration of my stated labours among them for the greatest part of two years, which however I was bound in conscience to decline. He also proposed leaving a farther sum towards building a parsonage-house and free school, as two wings to the chapel; which shews how much his heart was in the cause to the very last.

When I called on him two days before his departure, and asked him some questions relative to the exercises of his mind, and his prospects of death; he replied, "This poor body, like a cottage of clay, has been often patched up and repaired; but now the appointed time is at hand; and I feel it gradually falling, pin by pin, like the antient Tabernacle; but O sir! I long to be dissolved, and to possess that building of God, that bouse not made with hands, reserved for me in heaven.

"When

Where I shall see his face, And never, never sin; And from the ocean of his grace, Drink endless pleasures in."

" And though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, his rod and flaff, they comfort me." The morning of his death, he had a fevere buffetting from fatan; when he wept like a little child; but just as I called, a friend was at prayer with him; when once more he was enabled to express his triumph, in St. John's words, "Even fo, come Lord Jesus, come quickly, come quickly, come quickly!!!" And then with a sharp encounter in the agonies of death for about ten minutes, his eyes being elevated to heaven, and his countenance the picture of the sublimest triumph. he fell asleep in Jesus. "Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord; yea, faith the spirit, that they may rest from their labours-and their works do follow them."

Solt I am, dear Sir, antiditation was bothe

Your's in our Lord,

RICHARD MUNNS.3

No. X.

A Sketch of the state of the late Mrs. SMITH, wife of the above person.

RS. S was brought into a very low and desponding state, a few years before her husband retired from bufiness; infomuch that her friends were fearful of a confirmed infanity; but having an invitation to go and hear the Rev. John Ryland of St. Mary's Chapel, Birmingham, the went; and prefently learnt the cause of all her trouble, and the way to be delivered out of it. The unexpected pleasure she found in hearing this pious gracious minister, induced her to go again and again, though not without a cross; for she soon found that ridicule was attached to the profession and power of Godliness. However she was delivered from her dejected state, by the animating hopes that there was mercy in store for her, and therefore instead of rendering railing for railing, was led to pray for their conversion who discovered their enmity to the truth of God. While in prayer one day, and entreating the Lord for her dear husband, she had a sweet application of that promife, "The heart is in the

the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water; he turneth it whitherfoever he will?" This word never loft its fweetness, nor the force of its perfuation on her mind, till he was brought to know the Lord, and to be a comfort to her in the ways of God; and as his conversion proved an answer to prayer, though she waited long for it, it is not easy to describe her joy on the occasion; and her attempts to express her thankfulness were in general interrupted by a flood of tears. But her joys, though abounding, were not uninterrupted, or compleat; for, in feeding on the Lamb of God, the had her bitter herbs, &c. to remind her that this was not her rest: and as she survived her dear husband, she felt the loss of him fo feverely, that fhe never appeared in public, or even came out of her room till the day of her death, which happened about two years after that of Mr. S .--. The first part of this time the was as miferable in her own mind. as her voluntary confinement could make her but he, that teaches his children by terrible things in righteoufness, brought her at last to feel the rebellion of her own will, and to cry out; " Lord, thou haft chastised me, and I was chaffised; as a bullock unaccustomed to the yoke; F 3 turn:

turn thou me and I shall be turned, for thou art the Lord my God." For some months prior to her death, life became a burden to her through a complication of infirmities; but as the outward man was decaying, the new man was renewed day by day in a very extraordinary manner. She used often to say, when I called on her, "I long to depart and be with Christ, for he is all and in all! His love overcomes my heart, and is more than a match for all my rebellions: I don't wish for my departure, to get rid of my fufferings, but more fully to enjoy the presence of my Lord." At other times, she would break out, though with an enfeebled voice, " Whence is this that the Lord himself should come unto me, and that he should revealhimself to me, and not unto the world? not unto me, not unto me," &c. At other times, she would enquire "how the work of God went on in the New Chapel;" and would fay, "Don't be discouraged by any thing you meet with unpleafant in your work; though the Lord may take measures to keep you humble, and hide pride from your eyes; the work is the Lord's, and be will carry it on, and do all his pleasure; and know that every feal given to your ministry is worth a thousand worlds! you are a young man,

man, and not without your difficulties; and if the ministers' trials should be removed, their experienced hearers would foon be starved." She would often fay; "I know when you are in the fire, for then the word comes with power; and you have many pleading with God day and night, that all your exercises may be fanctified to yourself and your hearers in general." The nearer she approached the eternal state, the more she seemed to feel of her own unworthiness; and often exclaimed, "O the depth of the riches of his mercy to fuch a finner as myfelf! O that I had a voice, and strength to praise him for his goodness and for his wonderful works to the children of men! what has God wrought? he has fnatched myfelf and my dear departed husband, as brands out of the fire, when we had done evil, as we could! I must respect the instruments, but give all the praise to God. I bless him for bringing you to H----, and hope you will be honoured in turning many from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God .-- I am a poor creature, and find that none of my actions will bear examination; and if either my person or services are acceptable to God, they must be presented in a better dress than I can offer them

them; but as I renounce all dependance on fuch foundation, and rest wholly on the obedience and death of my bleffed Saviour, I am not afraid either of death or judgment,

The judgment-day I dread the lefs, My judge is made my righteousness."

Speaking of her only fon a few days before her death, fhe faid, "I leave him with the Lord, his arm is all-fufficient; he can turn the heart as the rivers of water." Her last theme was, " Christ is all and in all;" which to the best of my recollection, were the last words the was heard to utter; and fo fell affeep in the bolom of fefus; in him to reft, till the great refurrection-morn. dest departed hulband, as brands of

fire, when we he done end, as ma loud! I much respect the influenceits, but give all the

London Dear; Siradd I Lood or shing Jan. 16, 1795. Your's in the best bonds,

Richard Monns!"

examination; and if either my person or leivices are acceptable to God, they caude be nemiented in a better deele iben L can offer

ture, and had their note of my afficient will bear

diem

vab and piperis No. XL

An account of the experience and death of Fanny Kissingbury of Wallingford, in Berkshire, who died in the Lord, about Christmas, 1785.

THIS young woman was moral in conduct from her youth; but never had any particular concern for her foul, 'till about 11 years before the died; when a thought struck her, that if her parent (who is a mother in Israel) was going heaven-ward, "where could the be going?" and concluded the must be going to hell. However this thought wore off again, till attending the ministry of Mr. Parker about a year afterwards, the was convinced that fin was exceeding finful, and of the punishment due to it.

Her diffres for about the three first years was very great, and seemed to get deeper and deeper; so that she had hardly any hope for that time, and her almost constant cry was, "What must I do to be saved?" the sear of death in particular greatly prevailed; though, after the third year, she was favoured occasionally with a glimmering hope; principally

E 5 through

and, fears, especially the lear of death, prevailed

through the instrumentality of Mr. T. and even once was led to think the should one day be found among the number of the Lord's people: yet her doubts and fears, when they prevailed, came on stronger than ever; and in the general, her fears were feldom mitigated till about the fifth year; when the mother one day found her with fweet fmiles on her countenance; the was all alive, and her joy appeared to be exceedingly great: The asked her mother with earnestness, "Can you tell me where that passage is, Though your fine be as fearlet, they shall be as white as snow?" Though this was a bleffed visit from Jesus, yet peace lasted but a while; and the Lord was like a way-faring man that tarried but a night, Jer. xiv. 8. Satan thot his fiery darts, Eph. vi. 16. and the began to be afraid it was all a delufion; her doubts and fears, especially the fear of death, prevailed again; and if any ferious friends came in, and began to talk of their comfortable frames, when they were gone, she would fit down and cry. However she was now and then favoured with fome refreshing comforts; and particularly once from this thought, that, "as the Lord never changed, the fould be faved." the source to some source hands in forth vicence

glibnet.

About

About ten weeks before the decline, of which she died, carried her off, her sears wore away. One day as her mother was reading that part of the 23d Pfalm, which says, "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will sear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me:"—she said, "Mother, I am enabled to believe, that whenever the Lord is pleased to call me, he will be with me in the hour of death; and if he is with me in the hour of death; I have no fear but I shall be with him in glory."

About a fortnight afterwards, reading a letter wherein this passage was mentioned, "I' will ransom them from the power of the grave." she said, "Now, mother, I am enabled to believe that the word of God is true, and that Satan was a liar from the beginning; for Jesus has deseated him of his prey: and now, (added she) I am not afraid to die." The last eight weeks of her life, she was exceeding ill, but was full "of joy and peace in believing." After waking one day out of a sleep, in which she was heard to say, that "Christ was precious;" and being reminded of what she had said in her sleep; she replied, "Mother, I can feel that he is

E 6

precious to them that believe." She was one day so full of extacies, that, notwithstanding her illness, she ran about the bed-chamber, and called out, and faid, " Mother, cannot you come up and fing with me, and praise the Lord?" After the mother had been up fome time with her, the faid to her daughter, "I have a mind to pray; and what shall I say to the Lord?" her reply was, " Say, mother? prayer is ceafed for awhile; and you have nothing to do but to praise and to thank him for what be bath done for my foul." Afterwards the faid to her mother, "I have oftentimes heard you repeat that text, " Our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far mone exceeding and eternal weight of glary;" 2 Cor. iv. 17. And added, "I now feel in part that weight of glory; though (faid the,) none can know in full 'till they are in glory." Then The gried out in an extacy, "O mother! that you did but feel the joys that I feel in my foul from the weight of glory." She then spoke on her afflictions; and faid, the had for fome years been affliched beyond (the thought) any young person of ther years; but although, she said, they had been to great, the would not be forry to feel them over again, to know now of what fhe

the knew of the weight of glory; for the Lord had made all things work together for the good of her foul." When the awaked another morning, the faid "I thall foon be in that land that floweth with milk and honey." For eight weeks before the died, the lived, day by day, in the triumph of faith, praising and bleffing the Lord.

One day after the had been finging hymns (which the frequently did) the faid, "I shall fing a new fong to my God for ever and for ever. Hallelujah!" When some friends were present, she sung the following lines with a peculiar joy, and with a voice unusually sweet;

Lady H---'s Collection, 28th hymn, 4th verfe.

Ye ransom'd finners fing;
Sing on, rejoicing ev'ry day,
In Christ, th' eternal king."

At another time, when the was finging these

Dr. Watts's 54th hymn, 2d book, 2d verse.

"In darkest shades if he appear,
My dawning is begun;

f iro]

He is my foul's fweet morning ftar,

And he my rifing fun,"

vent flat awares another

Her mother observed, "That the time of death might be a dark shade to her;" she replied, "True, it might; but the fling of death is taken away, which is fin." Her mother also spoke to her on doubts and fears, as she drew nearer her end; the answered, "She dared not doubt nor fear the faithfulness of Jesus." When I was in Arminian chains (faid the friend that fent me this account,) I went to fee her the day before the died; and while I was fitting with her mother in the bed-chamber by the fire-fide, a fear struck her mind, that when I came to fpeak to her I should say something in the cavilling way. and the told her mother, the prayed "that the spirit might teach her what to say, that, man might be abased, and Christ exalted." I recollect among other things; she faid, with an inexpressibly serene and heavenly smile in her face, "I know that he is mine and I am bis, and I shall foon be with him for every for all the pranites of God are yea and amen in Christ Jesus, and these I rely on." I observed among other things, that it might please the Lord to restore her again: the replied, "Do not name it, for I long to depart and to be with Christ, which is far better

better; and looking at me, with a very significant look (as she knew I was then an arminian) said, "Once in Christ, and in Christ for ever."

R. L.

and it is the first to his loud or had not been

wind entire bin to fav. or the middle bin book of the No. XII.

tivel to field the truncation of field which

of Rev. Sir, di ni sang 1 sectody

Mr. Herne of Highgate, being descended from pious parents, was favoured with a religious education in his youth; and as he grew up into life, was enabled to shew an attachment to the gospel, which he supported to the end of his days. He appeared to be justly respected for his integrity and punctuality in transacting his fecular concerns; so that, we believe, it may be said, without fear of contradiction, he lived an honest man, and died a christian.

During the time I have known him, which is almost ten years, he has been regular in his attendance on the worship of God in this place, till old age and infirmities deprived him of that active vigour, with which he had been greatly favoured, in the former part of his pilgrimage.

Since

Since the decease of his dear partner in life, the has often expressed a desire, that her departure might be sanctified to him; and frequently used to pray the Lord to make his own afflictions profitable to his soul. I have many times heard him lament that he had not arrived to such a full assurance of faith, which would enable him to say, with a minister whom he knew, "It is equal to me when I go to sleep, whether I wake in this world or the next." But the God of all grace, it appears, was pleased to bestow that blessing upon him in the time of need; for he seemed truly to possess living comforts in dying hours.

Monday, June 30th, I found him in a very happy frame of mind: when I drew near his bed, and asked him how he did? with a cheerful voice and joyful eyes he said, "In Christ! there is no true happiness elsewhere"— he proceeded, "O what a change! so great a change I never expected—I have always loved the gospel; but, I never knew it so experimentally as I have lately; never had such light and consolation." Seeing an aged person in the room, he said, "I hope the Lord will reveal himself to you; before you die, as he hath

hath to me!" Speaking of the goodness of the Lord to him a little after, he expressed himself thus: "The Lord has given me many blessings; he has given me three good children; and now he has given me his holy spirit."

Tuesday, 1st. July, he appeared quite composed, though his comforts were not so strong; and observed, "God is still the same." After we had joined in prayer he said, "According to appearances, I shall be here but a few days; but I am going to my dear Father, and your Father, my God, and your God."

He expressed much concern, that "he could a not speak more for Jesus." When taking my leave of him, he prayed most affectionately, for them who were present; for our respective families; and for the success of the gospel; that many precious souls might be brought out of darkness into marvellous light!

Wednesday, he said, "I hope my comforts and delights are still the same:" observing the shortness of his breath, I advised him not to exert himself; he answered, "I cannot be off speaking

for you and me!" After a little paufe, he faid, "I can sleep but little; but I have the more time to think on Jesus! Though the outward man decay, I hope, the inward is renewed day by day."

On Friday, he feemed to have a folid reliance on the dear Redeemer, though not fo much sensible joy :--- with eyes and hands lifted to heaven, he prayed fervently to this effect, "O Lord, let me not deceive myfelf; thou knowest what a deceitful heart I have; O let me not be an hypocrite, the worst of all characters : but let me be found in Christ! make me love thee fincerely." I asked how death appeared to him? he faid "I would even appoint the time, if it were not finful; but the Lord's time is the best." After a short pause he repeated thefe words, " Whom the Lord loveth he cha-Reneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receivetb; If you be without chastifement, then ye ere bastards, and not fons;" adding, " My ideas are dull about worldly things; but I think they are clearer respecting eternity."

den goods

Saturday

'- Saturday, he was exceeding weak; but faid, "I may live to hear you pray once more; I thought my breath had been gone, but it came again." After prayer he seemed a little revived; and prayed himself fervently, saying, "Lord, fuffer me not to deceive myfelf nor mankind; Thou feeft two or three friends around my bed waiting to fee me go to glory !" Then addressing me, faid, "Surely the Lord will not fuffer a poor creature to deceive himfelf; it can answer no end for me to make you believe I am going to glory, if I am not, and to deceive myself." Sometime after, he faid, " Dying is nothing to one who fees his interest in Christ; he is the finner's only hope; and why shall I hurry to be gone? I trust I have a good hope." He expressed very great thankfulness to me and other ministers "for coming to see a poor creature," as he called himself: I observed, "We are all poor creatures:" Interrupting me, he faid, "But rich in Christ! I shall be rich in glory!" then he burst out in prayer, intreating " God to bless and direct me in all things, and make me very useful in the church." Afterwards he said in a rapture, "What a pleasure, to see my dear relations! and the bleffed angels! and God the judge of all! and his bleffed faints !- I verify think

think we shall enjoy each other in heaven be Again, he prayed thus, "Lord life the light of thy countenance upon me; and that will give me more joy than they have, when their corn, and wine, and oil increase !" Then looking at me he faid, "What a great mercy! to have three good children! it will be attended with many advantages; but the greatest will be to the foul!" Laying his hand on his breaft; he paufed a little; then he faid, "Come, Lord Jefus, come quickly! if it be thy good pleasure!" Looking at me a little after, (he added) "I hoped I was dying; but I was disappointed!" Finding his speech fail considerably, he said, " The Lord has deprived me of speaking to him; but I can lift my heart to him for the influence of his holy fpirit; O, I would not be without it for the world!" Addressing his youngest fon with a great degree of earnestness, he faid, "O! that you may all die in this manner ! " and and and richyn Christ I Chall be rich in glory Path n

On the Lord's day, when I asked him how he found himself? he answered, "Very bad, but in a good frame; I would not but be going Zionward for a thousand worlds!" At night he said to his eldest son, "I have the pleasure of approaching diffoliation." O - dequed approaching diffoliation.

The training one process to the man

Monday his tongue faultering a great deal, I thought he faid, "I am very weak, I hope I am going to a better world:" I repeated the words: he then faid, "I have no doubt, not the least! home knows my happiness and consolation." Indeed it is no wonder he had strong consolation, for I hope and believe he had the love of God shed abroad in his heart, by the boly spirit. His soul seemed much enlarged in love to his covenant-God, and to his fellow creatures.

He was almost constantly employed during his confinement in praying to, or praising God, and exhorting his family, the nurse, and others, who came near him, "to attend seriously to divine things, and not to neglect prayer." He frequently remarked to the nurse, "he never had so many precious promise of scripture brought to his mind in his life, as he had in this affliction."

Tuesday, speaking of some conversation which had passed that day, he said, "O! that

I might speak something that would awaken a ferious thought—O! that I might be instrumental of converting one precious soul! it would give me great pleasure in glory, if I should know it; and I don't care what they say of me here!"

Wednesday, his speech seeming almost gone; I said to him, "I hope your considence in Christ is still supported." He answered, "The same; but I cannot talk." He desired me to pray with him, which was the last time. On the morrow he appeared to be too far gone for conversation; and on Friday Morning, the 11th, about half an hour past one o'clock, he breathed his last in a kind of slumber; and we, hope and believe, experienced the blessedness of them who sleep in Jesus.

ed " , since will am, &c. man of the

The Lay, freakish of foster convertation which had rathed that day, he field, "OI that

of chine there is not to deste bearing to

of half of es. All ell of Lotter all of Histories

E. PORTER.

No. XIII.

-PAYNE, departed this life, Dec. 28, 1788.

TANUARY, 4th. 1789, he was frequently heard to speak with thankfulness of the kind Providence which led him to Highgate, about three years and a quarter ago; and inclined him to hear the gospel of Christ, under the Rev. Edward Porter. Previous to which, he had some concern about the good of his foul; but was very ignorant respecting the way of falvation by faith in Christ Jesus: his conscience telling him, he was finful; but alas! he knew not how he was to be made righteous. He used to go to his parish-church, and naturally expected information from the fermons delivered by the ministers he had heard; but generally came away, diffressed in his mind, being disappointed.

Immediately upon his coming to refide in Highgate, he became acquainted with some serious persons, who attended the worship of God at the chapel in Southwood lane; and being invited to come to hear preaching, he readily consented; and through the exceeding riches

of the grace of Christ, soon sound the word come with divine power to his soul; enlightening his mind, convincing him of the total sinfulness and depravity of his heart, as well as the irregularity of his conduct; and teaching him, that pardon and peace, holiness and happiness, righteousness and eternal life, were to be obtained in and through Christ alone.

Thus our dear Lord was pleased, we trust, to begin and carry on a work of grace in his soul, till he made him meet for glory. Through mercy he was able to manifest his goodness, by a diligent attendance on the ordinances of the gospel, such as preaching, prayer, singing, praise, and the supper of the Lord. And, by the blessing of God, his conduct was consistent with the gospel of Christ: For a year before his death, his health appeared to be declining, and during the last four months of his life, he was incapable of labour.

During his affliction, though he did not appear to be favoured with for much of the special presence of the Lord, as some of God's dear children have enjoyed, yet he was enabled to rely on the promises of the gospel by faith; and

Inunedictely upon his coming to relide in

and to exercise patience and resignation to the divine will in a good measure. About a week before his dissolution, he seemed more composed and happy in his soul than he had been in the preceding part of his illness.

Saturday, December 20th, conversing with his minister and others of his acquaintance, he said, "I have many in this world, which I love dearly;" but then exclaimed, "What are they to the glorious object before me? there is nothing here, for which I would wish to stay." At the same time he expressed great thankfulness to all christian friends for their kindness and for the instructions and good advice given him; and especially, to him, whom he termed his spiritual father.

The next day he appeared to be composed and comfortable in his mind; and some, who conversed with him, found their own minds much refreshed whilst they talked with him: the minister also found him very happy in his soul, and bleffing the Lord, and his heart was much revived, whilst praying and conversing with him.

and make him wern ellerat in that pure of oc

Vor. III. G digit on gattuC

If being the afternoon of the 26th, when the minister was with him, he said, "I hope, if it be the will of God, this will be the last night I fhall be here! I hope this will be the last time I shall see you !" Having defired him some time before to preach from 1 Cor. xv. 55, 56, 57. after his departure; he asked him if he had had the words much on his mind lately? he answered to this purpose, "Yes! O yes! I was enabled to pray fervently to the Lord, on Christmas-day, that those words might be my experience, when death should come; and I believed with great confidence, that they would: O I faw fuch beauty and glory in them which I cannot describe!" After some more converfation, he took an affectionate leave of Mr. P. praying, that God would blefs him abundantly, and make him very useful in that part of the vineyard! and somethered by the religion of the

Saturday afternoon, he was very weak in body, and could not talk much; but expressed a desire for his minister to speak of the things of God in his hearing. He did not appear to be remarkably lively at that time, but much resigned, and said, "God is the same."—During the night, he was, at intervals, pray-

ing to the Lord; and intreating that his wife and mother might be much concerned about the falvation of their fouls; also befsecking them to attend the preaching of the gospel, and to avoid light company and vain conversation.

A little before his last struggle with death, he was heard to say, "I am a dead man! Lord Jesus receive my soul!" His prayer, we trust, was soon answered: about five o'clock, on the Lord's-day morning, he breathed his last, and fell asleep in Jesus. And his immortal soul, we hope and believe, began a sabbath, which shall never, never end.

No. XIV.

Rev. Mr. R's account of the Rev. Mr. L's departure.

York, Od. 1785.

M R. L's dying behaviour was indeed very edifying---I was with him but an hour before his departure. He told me "that all his warfare was ended; that his victory was complete; that he was fo far from having any doubts or fears of his falvation, that he was

G 2

in possession of heaven, and had entered upon his immortal inheritance." This I thought too firong language, and therefore replied, a Your conflict is nearly over; you will foon be delivered from the burden of the flesh, and be with your Saviour to behold his glory." But he would not alter this strong manner of fpeaking. "It is, fays he, quite over---I am happy and already in heaven." " You fee, faid I, how the Lord comforts and fustains your foul, and what light and joy has succeeded your heaviness. We have the same dark valley to pass through, the same struggle to undergo. May the Lord support us in it, as he has done you." "Never fear, fays he, you will experience the fame comfort and support, when you die--- I never could have imagined or believed that I could have felt the confolation I now feel, or met death, as I now meet it. And vet I fee that I am a fink of iniquity, and that my whole life has been abominable!" While he uttered these words and many others, expressive of a full assurance of hope; his countenance and dying eyes were animated in such

a manner, that their radiance was too much for my eyes to dwell upon steadily. He surprised me by enquiring after my brother; and seemed pleased to hear that he promised to become a faithful labourer in the Lord's vineyard. He had told me some days before, "that the doctrines of grace, and the great truths of the gospel which he endeavoured to preach, now appeared to him certain and indubitable, beyond what he had ever beheld them; and that he could venture his soul and hopes upon their reality."

He generally, during the last fortnight of his life, selected a portion of scripture, as food for the day, which he dwelt upon, and drew support and strength from, with a keen spiritual appetite. Once I found him in this way sucking the marrow and satness contained in the 23d. Pfalm; and at another time eagerly devouring the rich food conveyed in the 12th-chapter of Isaiah.

He was not in so good a state of mind when he first came to Y—— he then talked of little

G 3 else

else but his distemper, and the means of cure; and seemed neither delivered from the love of life, nor the sear of death; but as death approached, it pleased God to bring him into a better frame; and B—— of S——, who saw him a sew days before he died, was affected even to tears by his behaviour; and declared that he had never before seen such an instance of the triumph of faith over death.

He died at a village near this city; but his remains were interred, at his own desire, in my church-yard. I was able, in the full sense of the word, to commit his body to the ground in sure and certain hope of a resurrection to eternal life, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A rich I have a deer will to wall I need to

the marrow and line of concentration the

witness in to paythe there of mind when

est finges som deltage av bus felige kan Alle kale in deltage comments in deltage

in full came cont -- the trained of the

No.

No. XV.

Spicerai odl stopa bace oda:

An account of the death of Mrs. UPTON, wife of the Rev. Mr. UPTON, in a letter from ber husband to a christian friend.

soult leaves: The will of the Live of a court the "TOU fay, my dear friend, you condole with me; I believe you do; for we are members one of another, and joined to the living head of-Christ Jesus, by the indissoluble bond of eternal covenant-love; and if one member fuffers, the others of the same body suffer also. My loss is great; my affliction is heavy; but the everlasting arms are my support. It is written in the Pfalms, "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in the time of trouble:" I experience the truth of this declaration. The Lord has faid, "My grace is fufficient for thee." I find it to me. "The Lord gave" me a doving, affectionate, ufeful wife: she was an help-meet for me, "and the Lord hastaken her away: bleffed be the name of the Lord ! Salles mey as mail room, wen lisk 1."

not forme activition me dear wife's experience:

[&]quot;The Lord enabled me to give her up, feveral days before the died; I stood by her G4 and

and held her by the hand while she breathed her last; and was graciously kept the only composed person in the room. The consideration of her deliverance from all fin and mifery, and her possession and everlasting enjoyment of confummate holiness and happiness, has been and is my only support. The will of the Lord is done, and he enables me to acquiesce. What he has done, he has done in rich covenant-love, both to her and me. He has dealt with me as a Father; I am enabled to kiss the rod, and bless him who has appointed it. Every stroke is sweetened with his precious, precious love; I cannot wish the dear partner of my bosom back again; and I think if the turning of my hand would bring her. back to life again, I would not do it to cross the heavenly will of God. Yet, after all, to me belongeth shame and confusion of face; 'tis. not I, but the almighty grace of God, which is theese I find is to teat, will all sign, am, driw

Daily I'm confirmed to be l' old as 287

taken her awaye blefied be die mene of the

"I shall now, according to your desire, give you some account of my dear wise's experience: 'I he first saturday in this month was the last day she was down stairs.—On the monday, she said she was very poorly, and not able to rise; I asked her "if I should send for a doctor?" she answered, "No." I said, "I should be glad if she would consent to have one called: "she then said, "I might send for one if I thought it proper;" which immediately I did—I asked her, "how she was in her soul?" she answered, "Rather dark and uncomfortable; and that satan accused her of past misconduct and failings in duty:" and wept. I said, "You must not hearken to satan, but venture all on Christ, and his righteousness and atonement." she said, "She could." I mentioned several promises of the gospel to her, by which she seemed comforted.

She appeared from this time to the Friday to be recovering; when she was seized with a violent shivering, and bathed in a cold sweat, which ran down her face in drops as large as peas: As soon as the nurse entered the room, with eyes lifted up, she cried, "Ever with the Lord, ever with the Lord; I am going to be ever with the Lord." This she repeated many times—she then asked for me; upon being told that I was not there, "Oh, said she, I shall see him no more: but tell him, that all is well with me for ever—I am dying, but all is well."

Soon after this I entered the room; as foon as fhe faw me, she stretched out her hand to shake hands with me, and said, "Farewell! all is well, I am going, and all is well; my passage will be short and it is quite easy: the Lord is my shade upon my right hand, the Lord will do wondrous things---this is the easiest bed I ever selt in all my life—O precious salvation!"

The doctor came to the bed-fide, and afked if the was in any pain; the answered, " No. but I'm dying." "Don't hurry yourfelf, faid he, you will get over this." "Sir," faid she, looking earnestly at him, "I am not burried in the least---death is easy and sweet to me---Tefus can make a dying bed easy; but why are you deceived? (she then repeated) I am a dying woman, and death is my everlafting friend," The doctor faid, "Tis a very violent feizure." " Yes, Sir, replied the, and you will will have fuch a feizure one day, and it will make you tremble." She was asked to take a little wine; " Oh, faid fhe, I shall foon drink the wine of the kingdom of heaven; I shall drink full draughts of heavenly blifs-

"Oh glorious hour, O bleft abode!

I shall be near and like my God."

I took her by the hand, and said, "Well, my dear,

dear, we are going to part for a feason, but we shall meet in heaven to part no more." "O yes, said she, I believe we shall---may the Lord be with you, and bless you, and keep you, and be your support in death, as he is in mine."

She continued this heavenly strain as long as the had the use of her tongue--- that text in Eph. ii. 6. "He hath made us fit together in heavenly places in Christ Fesus," she repeated more than an hundred times, and would often fay to me, "Come, my dear, there is room for you; you must come too." She would be often praising redeeming love, and adoring the Redeemer. and faying, " Lord thou art mine; Lord Tefus receive my foul; fee a finner escape to blifs." She frequently spoke of the preciousness of Christ's blood, saying, " It cleanseth from all fm." I said to her one day, "My dear, you will foon be gone." " Gone, where !" faid fhe, .. "To heaven," I answered, "O, faid she, I have been there all this day." I believe fhe had much of heaven let down into her foul before the was taken up into heaven. ed cocedure, the laid, a selieve God,

take me to thyself; I want to be gone, that I

may know more of these precious things; I cannot understand them perfectly here, I'm incapable of it; that is the reason." One day the was dreadfully affaulted by the enemy; "O that enemy, fhe faid, he makes me afraid: Oh that enemy!" I told her, " that Jefus had bruifed his head, obtained compleat victory over him, and cast him down for ever, and confined him in chains of eternal darkness-He charges you with your fins; but God the Father has laid them all upon Christ, and charged them upon bim; and he has borne them and put them away, and his blood cleanfeth you from all fin-you will shout victory soon." Before those words satan fled as lightning--- The smiled and lifted her hand, waving it in token of triumph. She told me afterwards, " That at that instant the had such views of the glory of Christ as the never had before. At another time when the was much tempted, the told me " that fatan told her that the Lordwould not receive her." I said " The Lord has declared he will not cast. you out --- which will you believe, God or the With eyes lifted up, and hands clafped together, the faid, "Believe God, believe God, the true God, believe him for ever." After this, the faid, I" Righteous Father! O righteous Father! Christ's righteousness exalts

exalts my hope; "how can I fink with fuch a prop?" To a person who stood by her bed-side, "Ann, believe the Lord; trust him, trust him for strength; do not forget the words of my mouth." A little before she died, she said, "This night I want to rest in the bosom of God.;" The Lord heard her prayer, and took her into his everlasting arms.

Yours in the Lord,

See the following party bear digitally with

le trian er No. XVI.

were conferenced to try out, is hat hard God

Mrs. ELIZABETH BRAIN, of Bristol, de-

HAVING had the privilege of an intimate acquaintance with this distinguished servant of God for many years; I cannot but testify (to the Redeemer's glory) that a more striking pattern of grace and devotedness to the Lord, I never saw, nor ever expect to see upon earth. Talking with her, at any time, we might be ready to think we were conversing with

with a glorified spirit in heaven. Her heart was inslamed with the love of God, and out of the abundance of her heart, her mouth spoke. Never did I once hear (for hours together) one vain unprofitable word drop from her lips; nay, nota sentence, that I remember, which tended not to minister grace to the hearer. She would be making mention of her divine master's name, and his righteousness, all the day long; (literally) indeed she knew no end thereof. One was at a loss whether to love or reverence her most—In her we might read what grace could do; and were constrained to cry out, What hath God done!

We lament, and justly too, the want of vital godliness in professors in general; but in ber we saw it to an eminent degree.—She was one that might be truly said to adorn the doctrine of God her Saviour in all things; doing habitually, whatever she did, to the glory of God. Would you know the history and real character of a true christian? in this monument of grace, the more you knew, and the more you hear of her, the more you will find a faithful delineation of a true child of God, an Israelite indeed; living (as she did) on the precious

precious Jesus; experiencing richly the truths of the everlasting gospel in her soul; exemplifying them in her conduct; and recommending them perpetually to others, by word and practice.

Her whole time was uninterruptedly spent, from morning till night, in going about and doing good to the fouls and bodies of others; but chiefly to the poor. In their service her labours of love were unwearied; and, through the Lord's bleffing, abundantly fuccessful---She was a powerful advocate in their cause with others; yea, with faints and finners; the generality of whom fo reverenced her character, throughout the whole city, that her applications were feldom fruitless. For not only did she feize every opportunity to recommend the poor, especially those of the houshold of faith, to the Lord's people, who had it in their power to affift them; but, that fhe might not be too burdensome to her religious friends, she would frequently apply in cases of necessity to the parish officers; and faithfully state the calamities of distressed objects so effectually, that I believe she seldom pleaded in vain: and amidst all her zeal for God, and devotedness to the poor, it was equally remarkable that fhe

the was uncommonly prudent in distributing to their necessities, whether public or private donations; especially confining the former to the respective parishes, where she received public donations. But who can tell what a bleffing she was made to their souls; whilst, by the providence of God, thus raifed up to be fo favoured an instrument of ministering to the necessities of their bodies! and here, one circumstance must not be omitted, (to the Saviour's praise) that though she had a remarkable hefitation in her fpeech, embarraffing at other times to herfelf, and still more distressing to her friends; yet, when in prayer with others, I have been often told the Lord has given her fuch clear utterance and fluency of speech, in her pleadings with him, as has aftonished all around her. But it were endless to enlarge--- Those of my readers, that had not the privilege of knowing this departed faint, might suppose many things, that might be added with the strictest veracity and faithfulness, to be the dictates of partial friendship and veneration. Whilst all that were acquainted withher, will (for to them I dare appeal) be ready, as with one heart and mouth, to fay, " The one half has not been told." I grant it; and only beg leave to add, nor could be told,

if an whole volume were to be wrote on this delightful subject: and therefore, on both accounts I forbear enlarging, having only mean't in this faint and imperfect sketch to have wrote a sentence or two for the sake of those who were strangers to her person and character, as an introduction to the following account of her last illness and death, given me by one of her sayourite nieces, which is as follows:

"October 31, 1790, Monday afternoon, my dear aunt Brain was going out; but my mother, observing her to be but poorly, begged her not to go, and she immediately said she would not; but go up to bed, which she did."

Tuesday morn, ist. November, she got up, though still very poorly; staid up till 3 o'clock in the afternoon, when she laid down her work, and very affectionately shook hands with my father, and said, "My dear Sir, I will go up to bed, never to come down any more." After this she was in violent pain for two or three days and nights, scarce spoke a word, but groaned very much.

bould vinkering har and note b Saturday

"Saturday 6th. she was much worse, and to all appearance she was dying the whole night; about 5 o'clock in the morning, she took the nurse by the hand, and very earnestly prayed for her, "that the Lord would give ber an affurance of her eternal salvation:" and then she very kindly took my hand, and "praised the Lord for giving me desires after him;" and exhorted me to trust in the Lord. Preceived these as her last words, as we verily thought they were."

"Sabbath morn, the 7th. The expressed an eager desire to get up; but she was not able to sit longer than while the bed was making. She was perfectly sensible, and very happy——To a friend she said, "I am almost landed on the happy shore:" and spoke a great deal the whole day, continually praying, "that His M jesty (a term she commonly used, expressive, no doubt, of the deep reverence and holy awe she felt towards her Covenant-Jehovah; and the humble sense she had of her own sinfulness and unworthiness) would condescend to glorify himself by her cheerful submission, perfect resignation, and that his divine will may be done in, by, and upon her;" and particularly desired

us "not to rest a moment short of the manifestation of salvation, eternal salvation, by the cross of Christ."

"On monday, the was much the fame; very many fweet expressions dropped from her lips. Tuesday, she was in great agony of pain and spoke very little: in the evening we observed several spots about her, and her disorder proved to be a spotted sever."

with the the state of the said the said the said of the

"She lay in a state of insensibility, with her eyes closed, from Wednesday morning till Friday, and did not take any thing within her lips for thirty-fix hours -- It was really dreadful to be with her, as the grouned very terribly, and feemed in great agony. About 12 o'clock in the forenoon, when the opened her eyes and took fomething, the looked very much frightened; which makes me think the great enemy of fouls was trying his last effort with her. She continued to look fo till Saturday morning, when her countenance was entirely changed to a fweet heavenly one; and fhe fpoke a great deal, but we could not make out but very little, her voice being extremely weak. At one time, the defired me to tell my dear mother "the

was exceeding happy, and that his Majesty was indeed present with her;" and added, "Oh! what will it, be when faith is changed to sight!" On being asked how she found hersels, she answered, "I shall be better, when above."

"Sabbath day, 15th, she seemed very happy indeed; and all the week, but Saturday the 20th, her great pein seemed rather to bow her down. She faid, "I little thought the furnace was to be heated leven times hotter for me than ever; but the divine will alone be done-I am not my own." At another time the faid, "Oh! this is to ripen me for glory --- As my day, fo shall my strength be-the Lord will support me under my excruciating pain, I know; or else it would be dreadful; but now it is sweet, it is When fomething was given her, she faid, "Glory be to God! I have every thing to do me good; nothing withheld --- If I had not a lively fense of his many mercies, I should be worse than an infidel."

"On being asked if it did not feem very long to her since her confinement, she answered, "Chearful submission to the divine will makes it very

jesty's countenance make it exceedingly sweet."
And, if she thought she should be taken to glory soon? The replied, "I don't know; I am not solicitous at all about it; but that the divine will and pleasure may be done in, by, and upon me."

"She continued in the same submissive and resigned manner; and spoke exceeding comfortably to all around her, though in great
agony of body---To one friend she said, "His
adorable Majesty has condescended to ask me,
unworthy as I am, what he should do for me?
my reply was and is, Thy divine will alone be
done! I have no will at all of my own; but
to be conformed to the divine will of God in
all things." To another friend she said, "My
late dear friends, Mr F-Mrs T- Mrs S-amongst many others, are now in open vision, and
his immediate presence, beholding the king in
his beauty---And it will be thus with me perhaps very soon."

"At another time she said, "I am in exquisite pain, and very weak; but Oh! I have the great happiness to reslect that this poor weak body has in great measure been worn out and spent was exceeding happy, and that his Majesty was indeed present with her;" and added, "Oh! what will it, be when faith is changed to sight!" On being asked how she found hersels, she answered, "I shall be better, when above."

"Sabbath day, 15th, she seemed very happy indeed; and all the week, but Saturday the 20th, her great pein seemed rather to bow her down. She faid, "I little thought the furnace was to be heated feven times hotter for me than ever; but the divine will alone be done-I am not my own." At another time the faid, "Oh! this is to ripen me for glory --- As my day, fo shall my strength be-the Lord will support me under my excruciating pain, I know; or else it would be dreadful; but now it is sweet, it is When fomething was given her, she sweet !" faid, "Glory be to God! I have every thing to do me good; nothing withheld --- If I had not a lively fense of his many mercies, I should be worse than an infidel."

On being asked if it did not seem very long to her since her confidement, she answered,
 Chearful submission to the divine will makes it ver y.

vennals venna en

perty fhort; and the smiles of his adorable Majesty's countenance make it exceedingly sweet." And, if she thought she should be taken to glory soon? she replied, "I don't know; I am not solicitous at all about it; but that the divine will and pleasure may be done in, by, and upon me."

"She continued in the same submissive and resigned manner; and spoke exceeding comfortably to all around her, though in great
agony of body---To one friend she said, "His
adorable Majesty has condescended to ask me,
unworthy as I am, what he should do for me?
my reply was and is, Thy divine will alone be
done! I have no will at all of my own; but
to be conformed to the divine will of God in
all things." To another friend she said, "My
late dear friends, Mr F—Mrs T— Mrs S—amongst many others, are now in open vision, and
his immediate presence, beholding the king in
his beauty---And it will be thus with me perhaps very soon."

"At another time she said, "I am in exquisite pain, and very weak; but Oh! I have the great happiness to reslect that this poor weak body has in great measure been worn out and spent foent in his divine Majesty's service; he has honoured me so as to make me a servant to the rich for the service of the poor---Oh! what it is to be devoted and given up to God in early days; to be separate from the world, and called out from amongst them --- What can I render to his Majesty that it has been thus with me?" She frequently faid, "My pain is excruciating, but indeed I don't complain; don't think me impatient, for I am not; I only speak of it, for you to know how the Lord deals with his redeemed, the purchase of his blood; and how much he supports and bears his people through." At another time she said, "I should be glad to have a little fleep; but therein, as in every thing elfe, the most minute thing, spiritual or temporal, the divine will be done."

She would frequently fay, "I long to be active;" and would often ask for work; but on telling her she was not able to do any, she answered, "Divine will, in the fullest and strictest sense, be done! to be useful or useless, just as meet, in thy all glorious Majesty's sight."--- At another time, "I can't be thankful enough for the great, very great tenderness and chearful love all my relatives and every christian friend

friend flew to me--- The Lord God will richly reward you and every one, for every mark of love shewn to any of his redeemed."

She frequently faid, "Oh, my pain is exceeding great indeed; but the Most High will support me! glory be to God! I have not a doubt of it--if I had, it would be dreadful; but I triumph in my pain--It is exceeding sweet, because the Lord my God will support and bear me through." At another time she said, "It does seem to me, as if my strength would be renewed; or that I shall be personally received of God in glory very soon; but I must wait with patience--Oh that I may, with chearful submission, tarry the Lord's leisure."

So great was her humility, that she would very often say, "If it were possible to be too deeply fallen, to be the purchase of Christ's blood, I know myself to be the person." She would frequently break out and say, "Oh the boundless love of God to the unworthiest of the unworthy, far viler than the vilest of the vile, which I know myself to be; had I not a lively sense thereof, the very stones would aloud cry out against me." At another time, "Oh the sweet

fweet prospect of a glorious immortality! when I shall see, eye to eve, face to face, my lovely Jefus." She frequently repeated, "All happinels centers in God; no happinels comparative to that --- how can I be thankful enough? my fenfes have been kept fo calm and with entire refignation; what have I to do but to wait upon and praise God! Oh what can I render to Father, Son, and Spirit, who is so good and gracious to unworthy me?"

On being told a friend would always continue her bounty to the poor, she said, "Glory, glory, be to God! nothing can be kinder; they that trust in the Lord shall lack no good thing." When the was defired not to fpend herfelf by talking to much, the immediately answered, " Now is the time to speak for the glory of God upon a death bed."

At another time she said, "Oh! what that will be, to see eye to eye, and face to face ! Oh! the boundless love of God in Christ is from everlasting to everlasting; it quite over-powers this frail body--- I don't murmur; no, far from A canada tamas, 4 On 100

in the tile potent

Y IN

War of Later Control

Pagination incorrect. T 169]

it! divine will be done, if I continue here to the age of Methufalah."

till treelver but we, findheille would be in

At another time, she defired me to write down the following words, "Bleffed are the dead that die in the Lord; I have a portion of their bleffedness." "I have now very sweet intercourse with his adorable majesty. It is impossible to know, but by experience, the love of God in Christ Jesus; and the great sweetness of entire devotedness to God---Oh the goodness of the Lord is immense! it is indeed."

On being told my mother longed for her release, and could not bear to see her suffer so much; fhe immediately faid, "Direct her to the Lord's prayer, Thy Will be done." When a dear friend was mentioning to her, that the everlasting arms were underneath her; "O yes, they are, the answered, for which I can't be fufficiently thankful." On his telling her, the Lord would never leave nor forfake his people; "Oh I am confident of that, I know he never will--- I can bear witness of it; here is a monument of mercy." visites will be see how great

not like his vinz perion, we ware at a lot to Vol. III.

Saturday 18th December, the lay, as all thought, from fix o'clock in the morning till twelve; but we, fearing the would be fpent for want of fome refreshment, endeavoured to rouse her; when we found she was only in a kind of flumber -- fhe looked up, fmiled, and faid, "Oh, I never was so easy; quite comfortable---bleffed be God! there is nothing for me to do, but to die-Oh never was goodness like this! all will be well in the appointed time-1 long to tell you, but I can't with this frail body: it is more than I can expresshis adorable Majesty is all love and goodness; I have every bleffing in God-I shall be received into glory in his own time." And thus the continued in prayer and praise the whole the state was mentioning to less, night.

N. B. It may be proper to observe, that the first sabbath that she was confined, she said very distinctly, "Six, six, six." And we all thought she would be taken to glory at six o'clock in the evening; but as there was no alteration at the time, and the doctor observing her pulse was not like a dying person, we were at a loss to know

know the meaning of what she then said, and did not think much of it till after the fifth week, when we supposed she mean't fix weeks; and the Friday before her departure, she said several times, "she should not go till Sunday afternoon;" and it was most probably she had a manifestation of it, as she sweetly fell asleep in Jesus, without sigh or groan, a quarter before four o'clock on the sunday afternoon following.

As a specimen of her letters, we subjoin the following to Mr. Whitefield, which is here printed from the original, viz.

de them havinhed of atta

Rev. and Hon. Sir,

THE glorious majesty of the Lord God rest upon you! the most high God prosper your every scheme to advance his glory, and promote salvation of souls, &c. &c! The arm of the Lord be stretched out over you!---O may glory redound to his eternal Majesty!

H 2

Pardon,

Pardon, Sir, the forwardness of an un-worthy creature—you order me to be free, never backward in writing—I seize, (I trust) with humility—seize the indulgence and pour out my heart. My soul is on the stretch for God's glory—I cannot bear to hear heralds of the everlasting gospel spoke wrong of, without vindicating; on your sudden leaving Bristol, Sir, every mouth was open; I had as much as I could do to answer one and another. The people in general, Sir, think you have forsaken Bristol. Some think it's owing to their not profiting more, &c. and it's to their great humiliation before God.

Indeed, indeed, there are very, very many that long to be indulged with your ministry—Was you from time to time a little in Bristol, we should have a settled large congregation. There are great gospel-blessings in the tabernacle; much marrow and fatness. The Lord Jesus Christ will not depart, nor withhold his power. He hath given the former, and will cause the latter rain much more exceedingly to slow. I'am satisfied; yea, Lord, I can ask no more—thou wilt not suffer thy glory to depart. Precious

doves to the windows--- Sinners be converted--Saints built up in the most holy faith--- Thy
presence will be there from time to time;
and many thousand precious souls will have
cause, throughout eternity, to bless and praise,
that ever one stone was laid on another---verily
it was not the doing of man, but the Lord's.

Sir, I affert your health will not permit your stay in Bristol; you are thoroughly worn out; that you are not easy to be here, if not able to preach, &c. and that you must have more air--you will send us supply of gospel ministers. What would we more? Indeed, indeed I blush we are not more sensible of our privileges, and more thankful. Lord, it is just cause thou should withhold thy innumerable mercies—thou dealest not with thy people according to their deserts, but the riches of thy mercy in Christ.

I humbly hope, Sir, we shall have the pleafure of seeing you in the winter---I cannot doubt it, if your health permit. Have the gentlemen, Sir, through me offended, that the two last times you have favoured us with your com-

H 3

pany,

pany, you withhold receipts of their duty and love? the furmife would cause me great forrows. but I will not fuffer forrow to take place before I know it to be fo. Have I in any wife offended. or any one through me?

Lord, in thy infinite mercy direct a worthless creature in every thing! nothing would I do of myfelf, nor leave undone thou would have me do. Prefently I shall awake up before thy majesty in perfect glory; yet a little while, and the church-militant will be no more-Christ's body be compleat-all his faints gathered in vigaria ev bush him they are the sone

"Allehia! Alleluia! welcome, welcome me to alblueding Lamb." on ow dudd I, to b.

I would indulge my pen and declare the exceeding goodness of God to my poor foul, but I shun the very appearance of forwardcoming to their deferts, but the retire called

mer than there so bridged east toy briefs but

I am,

Rev. Sir,

Your devoted Servant in Jesus.

tuning factoring out in nor good to ear Briftoh Sept. E. BRAIN. 10, 1768. Esta in the format (it care)

NO. OU

incory in Cheff.

Antiques need but quishound a lockhelpronder

No. XVIII was with or and

no our facing he has adopted an men-good RS C. in her early days much opposed the hearing of the gospel, nor could she be brought to think that mankind was fo far fallen as the word of God represented; but by reading of the scripture, she seemed in due time convinced in her judgment, that the creature could do nothing; and that, if ever she was to be faved, the must come to Christ as a poor lost finner. Thus the continued with her judgment informed, for many years; but appeared to feel nothing of any faving effect, until the opening of S ... F .-- chapel: From that time, the gradually increased in the knowledge, and walked in the ways, of the Lord-about a twelvemonth before her last illness, God in his providence faw fit to fend a heavy trial on the family, which fo affected her mind, as to bring on a confumption, which terminated in her death.

She continued to attend the ordinances, tills the could no longer walk; and then took to her room, expressing herself that she was in her last stage. "But, says she, what a blessed thing to know that my Redeemer liveth!" She

H 4

acknowledged, " the enemy had been tempting her to destroy herself;" but she added, " Blessed be our Jesus, he has conquered for me---not unto me, but to his great name be all the praise! I hope I shall not stagger in the great waters, for Christ has promised to be with his people; and why need I doubt? Jefus gave me a sweet promise to rely on, in the fifth chapter of the book of Job, verse the 19th, He shall deliver the in fix troubles, yea, in feven, there shall no evil touch thee -- bleffed be God for his promifes! none but 7: fus can do helpless suners good. God is my support -- I shall be soon with him; but I can wait the Lord's time, for he does all things. well." only on a state mark thought and the city nt es, how this supplemental off of bilipina, the

She could not bear to fee her daughter (who gave me this account) affected at her illness and approaching change; but said, "What do you grieve for? Christ will be your friend; put your trust in the Lord; we shall, I trust, meet above." On being asked, if she was troubled about leaving her family? she answered, "Oh no, I would leave you all at the feet of Jesus." Then in great wrestling she cried out, "Oh my Saviour! when will he come? dearest Jesus, leave me not! blessed Jesus,

Jesus, support me! Oh for more patience to wait the Lord's time! God bless you all with thousands of his blessings! I don't want to be gone, to be free from pain; but to be with Jesus! blessed Saviour, look down with pity upon the chief of sinners! when the great water-sloods prevail, leave not my trembling heart to fail; for thou art all-sufficient." She then seemed to be departing, and was asked if Christ was precious? She said, "Yes, very precious; Jesus is coming!" The last words she spoke were, "Oh my Redeemer!" and then sell askep in the Lord, March 1788.

No. XVIII.

ersic in, and endayoured to recollect then

MRS. Appleby, during an affliction of upwards of two years, was often much haraffed by the enemy: at one time in particular the was fo far tempted as to give way to despair, which occasioned a delirium; and for the space of twenty-four hours she seemed to have nothing but horror upon her soul.

-0100

yas stouthin it bet Salvow of bes Her

Her husband proposed to send for some of her particular friends, and when they came, she begged them to go to prayer, which they did; and continued reading the scripture at intervals for about sour hours; they then less her somewhat composed in her mind; and in ashort time after, the Lord broke in upon her soul in such a wonderful way, that she was constrained to say, "the work was of God;" and all the next day she seemed to enjoy a heaven in her soul.

At another time, she was in much darkness and distress, and was tempted to think that all her past experience was only a delusion: a friend came in, and endeavoured to recollect such passages of scripture as he thought most suitable to her case; but she put them all from her, as having nothing to do with them.

He read a chapter, and went to prayer, but left her in the same state that he found her in. After he got home, her ease was impressed on his mind; and he begged the Lord to direct him to some scripture, that might be blessed to her soul, and went back again. He read part of the 102 Pfalm; and withal told her, that it was God's word, and he would read it without any com-

comment, and leave the Holy Ghost to apply it: he afterwards went to prayer for a blessing. Here again the Lord set her happily at liberty.

During the former part of this long affliction, her faith was often thus tried, but for the last fix months of her life she had scarce a doubt of her personal interest in the Lord Christ; . though at times, she did not so sensibly enjoy the manifestations of the love of God; yet, in darkness, she was enabled to view the covenant of grace; and to stay her foul on God. She loved to converse on the great truths of the gospel, especially the divinity of Christ, the electing love of God, and the faints perfeverance. She often faid, "The was afraid flie was impatient;" and generally defired her friends that prayed with her, "to ask for faith and patience to wait the Lord's time;" and one day added, "that she was fo fure of heaven, that the believed the building would not be compleat, without her." was ob, or release on

Once when the enemy was harrassing her, that scripture was sweetly applied, Satan bath desired to have thee that he may sift thee as wheat, but I have projed, Sc. She told a H 6 friend

friend that call'd on her, that "though she believed him to be a dear child of God, yet death
was so desirable, and would be so much her
gain, that she would not change situations
with him, to enjoy his health, no, not for
thousands of pounds," (though she was much
exercised with bodily pain.) Another time,
after having answered a friend some questions
which he proposed, he sat musing a few minutes; when she asked him, "If he was dumb,
and had nothing to say for Jesus! for, (says she,)
nothing else will do for my soul."

On the Sabbath before her death, the feemed "to fear the should be a coward at last, and not leave a testimony behind her for Jesus." A friend observed, "that a steady reliance on the merits of the Saviour, and calmly committing her soul to him, was as satisfactory an evidence as the greatest extacies." With a peculiar energy the said, "Blessed be God I am enabled to do that."

She told another friend a little before her death, "that had she read a novel formerly as often as she had now read the 14,15,16, and 17th chapters of St. John's Gospel, she should have been able

to have repeated them without book; but ah, how foon does my treacherous heart let the grand truths that are contained in them slip! and how little do I profit!" It would be impossible to enumerate the many texts of scripture that were applied to her mind, and made a blessing to her.

About an hour before the died, a friend called to fee her and asked about the state of her soul? her answer was, "No doubts now; but stedsast on the Rock Christ—Heaven in view—Jordan divided—and the sun of righteousness shining on my soul." She desired her husband to lift her up in bed to sing,

" Salvation, O the joyful Sound!"

this was the night before she departed; and in the morning of the day of her death she desired to be listed up in bed and sing the same hymn; and at last went off triumphantly.

P. S. The Editor only has to add, that himself was witness to her happy death-bed experience; having attended her at times with great satisfaction, as she had for some time sat under his ministry.

:0010

No.

de liere revestes cheine midione beete e un ab

for the district of the contained on them died

REV. Str. was Alathong I ob plant worthing

GREEABLY to the defire of the friends of our lately departed fifter, you have here a few of the particulars of God's gracious. dealings with her in the time of her last illness: feveral of which I was an eve and ear witness to, being long intimate with the family. T often faw her in the first part of her last illness; and when the Phylician and friends supposed her in danger, I judged it necessary, but had not courage, to tell her their fears. Her hopes of recovery prop't her up; you was fent for; and, however tenderly, yet you honeftly told her her danger. This at one stroke took away those false props; and made her enquire earnestly, "What shall I do to be saved?" fire was in much diffres of foul for many days, dreading to fleep, left the should die out of Christ, and often waking from sleep in hornor not to be expressed. The Lord faw and pitied her and gave a hope in his mercy; the was enabled feebly to lay hold on Christ; and though it was but feebly, it abated the fear of death. She did not indeed greatly rejoice;

joice, on the contrary, Satan was permitted to push hard at her. Her continual cry was, "O that the Lord would set my soul at liberty." O that he would but seal pardon on my heart!" Happening providentially to turn to that texts. O woman, great is thy faith! be it unto thee, even as thou will, her heart was refreshed.

One day her nurse saying, "I hear the. bell going, fomebody is gone home;" fhe cried out, " Who next fhall be fummoned? my merciful God, is it I? I long to be gone, O that I might die this night!" Every defire of life feemed entirely removed. And when a friend asked her " If she felt any uncasiness at parting with the world? fhe faid, "No; was any one to offer me a medicine that would give me health. I should rather choose to refuse it; I long to be gone." She feemed afraid her fenfes flould leave her, and left the should fay any thing to displease the Lord at such a time; yet the was much tempted to doubt, and would, now and then, fear & the thould not hold out to the end."

Two days before the died the fell into reasoning, "Am I fure I am not mistaken? what if

DON'T VA

ctorology Island toon join them: "Bliffs the

fould be deceiving myfelf in a matter of fuch yast importance as the salvation of my foul?" thus reasoning, she began to doubt and letgo her confidence. A dark gloom overforead her mind; now was fatan permitted to fift her as wheat; the angu ih of her spirit was extreme; she was filled with horror inexpressible; and seemed in the depth of despair. Her friends in the greatest distress ran for the first serious person they could think of; two came to her; but by this time the Lord enabled her to fay, "I am as it were just come from the brink of hell; I faw the pit open, I was shook over it, but was prevented from falling in. But what I have now is bleffed food. Great as the trial was, I would even go through the same again for what I now feel." They sang a hymn, prayed with her, and praised God on her behalf. She continued exulting in the favour and loving-kindness of the Lord. Indeed it feemed fatan's last effort; for from that time, though the grew weaker and weaker in body, her confidence grew stronger and stronger. "Now, faid the, I am going to my dear father, and my dear children, they are praifing him in eternity, I shall soon join them: "Bless the Lord, O my foul, and all that is within me praise his holy name! Come, sweet Jesus, take me home!" To those about her she said, " When

When I am dying, let my husband and sister be called, but not my mother; the shock will be too great for her." She then fell into earnest prayer, begging "that God would bless her husband, her mother, and other relations and friends who attended her in her illness.

Under Their Les a cherrit but

About half past twelve, she enquired what it was o'clock? and being told what the time was, she said "About one I shall go. O thou devil, where art thou now? Come sweet Jesus, come sweet Jesus! see him in the garden sweating great drops of blood for me; see him at Pilate's bar for me; see him hanging on the cross, and the soldiers piercing his side, for me; come sweet Jesus! I long to be gone. Call my husband and sister that they may rejoice with me." She held out her feeble hand to her husband, and said, "I am going to my saviour and my Redeemer, who bought me with his blood."

Thus triumphant and perfectly sensible, filled with confidence and joy in the Holy-Ghost, she continued till about one in the morning; when she said, "I am very sleepy, and very thirsty."

thirsty;" and in a few minutes she went to drink at the fountain of life, leaving this teffimony, that who ver will may drink and be eternally refreshed. May her thrice happy end be never forgot! but may a lasting impression be fixed on the hearts of her furviving relations and friends; and may we all be true followers of them, who through faith and patience inherit the promifes line and bear of the state of the state

routh C routh of the model is in the seve

on to put on Six griden Tivening great adds of blood for

had but the not rate of Yours, &cc. sell the

wich with the land with the d

Shirt wason friet

substitution in the contraction of the purchase to shot if we set has all white a ter and G. J. ?

war or union due I I do I fin this mothan we or No. XX.

be gone. Call on in thest and the that they hiry spoice with me." She held out ther from paids read " Jean bes Drisded wit 81 bidd

Dear and Rev. Sir,

I THINK it my duty as a member of Christ's militant Church here on earth, and a constant hearer of the Gospel, as preached by you, (and bleffed be God, I can truly fay I " Y hill

hear it with comfort to my foul,) I say, I think it my duty to strengthen the hands and (as far as in my power lies) comfort the hearts of God's faithful ministers and people by all the means I am capable of. For that reason, (and indeed that is the only motive) I write the following lines:

It is of a friend, Mrs. W --- d, who departed this life in the full enjoyment of the presence of God. She had been a hearer of the late Mr Iones of St. Saviour's, Southwark, about four years, as often as the well could; and what she heard, God was pleased to bless to her Soul; for it proved to be as feed fown on good ground which is now fully come to perfection, When the Lord, by affliction, had almost brought her to Death's door, she was deprived of the company of God's People for fometime: (her husband being in his natural state.) But it pleased the Lord of his great goodness to hear her prayers, and fend her some of them to her great comfort. She defired also to receive the communion; and the then faw the Lord Jesus, as a sin-pardoning God, and was glad; and never was in the dark afterwards to her last moments. She also requested that

that some of God's children would come and pray by her; and (as I truft, through the rich: unmerited grace of God, I am one of that number) I went, and found her full of spiritual. comfort wishing to be gone. After fing. ing a hymn and praying by her, I asked her if fhe found any comfort under the prayer? She answered, "Yes." I said to her can you, by the witness of God's spirit to yours, say that you are a child of God, and have that peace which passeth all understanding? "Yes," she anfwered, "I can; for it is that which bears me up under the agonies of death." Then I replied, you are not afraid to die? " No," fhe faid, "I can bid the enemy defiance, I have fuch faith in a God in Christ, that makes me not afraid." Another day I went and prayed by her, and after finging a hymn I asked her how the found her foul? She answered, "Very comfortable; I long to join with the angels in finging my Saviour's prailes." The last time I prayed by her, feeing her almost ready to depart I asked her, do you find God's comforts with you now? " Yes, fhe replied, I do; my body is full of the painful agonies of death, but my foul is comforted." On Good-Friday, in the afternoon, when I went to fee her, I turit afked

asked her if she knew what day it was? "Yes, she said, she did." I observed that this day we commemorate the sufferings of the Lord Jesus. "Yes, she said, and this morning he gave me, by the eye of saith, to see, as it were, his sace all covered and running down with blood." I told her, that Christ gave his people such sights as a carnal world could in no case comprehend: But I told her, these things were not to be wholly depended upon as marks of our being in a state of salvation. "No, she answered, but I feel his love in comforting my soul."

On Sunday morning, being the time she died, a friend asked her how she found hersels? "Very comfortable; she said, I have strong faith in God." And her last words that she could be understood to speak were, "Come Lord Jesus; come quickly, quickly, quickly;" three times, and her soul, in a sew moments after, slew to her Jesus.

what s bearing the bearings of the less

P. S. I beg, Sir, you will encourage all God's People to attend fick beds, and not to be alhamed or afraid; for if God will bless the feeble labours of fuch a wretch as me (as Mrs.

lift that slower had be burren to be Allen.

Mrs W----, always expressed he had to her soul) why should any doubt of his blessing? And indeed it has been a precious time to my soul.

countries and its contribution of the second

these series willtone treat against

No. XXI.

Account of Mils C----, during her last Sickness, transmitted by a Friend.

TISS C----, was feized with a violent cold attended with an intermitting fever; which continued with many very alarming symptoms, from Monday the 12th of August, 1771, till about the middle of the following week; but on Thursday she told her mother, the was then fure " this fickness would be her last." She disposed of her worldly affairs, and converfed with great composure; and defiring the family might be called up gave them the most tender advice, and defired 4 they would be all warned by her example, that the had never feen till now in its true light the vanity of the world and all its enjoyments. and befeeching them to feek the happiness of another life." To the same effect she spoke

OR

an Friday with great composure, finding herfelf that night grown worse, and such symptoms in the bowels as to make her believe the should not hold it out many hours, she begged the might have prayers read by her, and the facrament administered, which she received the following morning about fix o'clock: at about nine the important hour came, when the fearthing spirit of the Lord and of judgment would try her thoroughly; for now she began to feel, with many groans, the power of conviction, that she was not right in the eyes of God our Saviour; which gradually encreafed to fo high a degree that the foon after became deeply fensible of her last state; and in the encreating anguish of a foul in the terrors of it continued crying out most pitcouffy for two days incellantly in the greatest despair, as one forfaken and configned over to the powers of darkness, without closing her eyes or keeping filence for one moment. During this period, how distressingly did she judge and condemn herfelf for a life Toent in vanity and estrangement from Christ, in spite of all the spiritual advantages the had! It is as impossible to deferibe it, as it was for those who attended her to hear it without weeping. The alarming

terrors the had too, in having received the communion, without discerning the Lora's body, added deeply to this oppression. " What have I done?" faid she, "God is of purer eyes than to behold iniquity, and the very angels are not pure in his eyes. What a wretch then must I be to dare to receive, with fo much impurity, his holy body and blood! My religion has only been lip-fervice, and mockery of God; I have flighted the day of grace, turned my back on the Lamb of God, and now he has rejected me; yea, it is impossible that he can save me, for he cannot fave a devil."

to fo high andergos that the food ration became In fuch bitter complaints the used to spend her declining strength. But it must also be here remarked that as she had a continual fever on her affecting her head and nerves, this anguish and oppression of spirit might eafily have received additional strength from her bodily diffres. When her mother, on Saturday, was trying to comfort her by telling her what our Saviour had done and fuffered for her, "Aye, replied the, but I am no believer, where is the affurance I want, and the pardon of my fins d'in di low si es si adira sidered to without weeping. The starming

-103

This anxious state, after having lasted from faturday till monday, as an impenetrable black cloud, that threatened the dreadful storm of the wrath of God, now dispersed, and was at first fucceeded by a fweet dawn of hope breaking in upon her; for on Tuesday, the day before her departure, she began, with great defire and earnestness of heart, to dwell on the sweet name of Jesus; as well in the intervals of her senses, as in her delirium, (a name she never before could bear without terror) not only repeating it herfelf incessantly a thousand times, but infifting that all those about her should do the fame. In one of these intervals, turning to the nurse, and pointing to her heart, " Here, said she, I am now reconciled, I have been lost, but now I find the peace of God; Jefus has faved me." This and the following day, (which was her last) her foul was for the most part employed in calling on and fpeaking about Jesus, though it was difficult to understand what she said. Once addressing herself to our Saviour, as if in person standing by her, she faid, "I am coming, I shall be with you dear Lord; in two hours I shall die; but what do I fay? die, no! I shall live." On Wednesday, the morning of the day of her death, endeavour-Vol. III. ing

ing to rife up, the began with incredible strength of voice to repeat the word Jehovah, finging praises to him, till her strength was quite exhausted. Frequently she was heard to say fomething of "our Saviour's bloody fweat;" and "herfelf, being all over fprinkled with his blood;" but excepting those words, the distinct connexion could not be understood. Seeing her now near the time of her dissolution we fung a departing hymn, by her bed-fide. After which, kneeling down in prayer with many tears we recommended her precious foul into the hands of her dear Redeemer; and under a fense of his divine presence, thanked and adored him for all his mercies to her; and particularly for this last display of his grace, in thus glorifying the power of his atoning blood, by rescuing a poor sin-distressed soul out of the jaws of the lion, and giving her and us the happy affurance that he would receive her into glory.

Thanks and praise and adoration, more than can be uttered, be unto the Lamb for ever and ever! Amen.

the mouning of the day of heads the chierrynia

All Sed to Market

countributed special a bouler and condendations

No.1 XXII.

OH: 10, 1792.

Rev. and very dear Sir,

HAVING very lately an opportunity of being an eye and ear-witness of the Lord's gracious dealings with one of his dear people, and having reason to judge some of the particulars, will be pleafant to you, I take up my pen for the purpose. August the 12th. I received a letter from my nephew Gifford Gwennap, (who was then at Falmouth, and was just about fetting out for London, as Doctor Addington's vacation was expired). faying his mother was very ill of a fever, which had prevented his fetting out before, and begging I would come immediately to them, which I did, and found her recovering. But the Tuesday after, viz. the 17th, this dear young man was feized with the fever, and fo violently as to take to his bed directly; when he foon faid, "he believed his time would be very fhort complained he had been a lukewarm christian, and had not that humble sense of it he ought; that his mind was cloudy and I 2 doubtful:

doubtful; but he added I know God is love; may he be glorified! if I perish, it shall be at the feet of Jesus." Two or three days after, he said, "I trust I am not deceived, but I have no cloud within; the Lord has loved me with an everlasting love. He has loved, he has loved me, I cannot tell why."

"I shall behold his blissful face, And stand compleat in righteousness, &c."

"I have a hope, through grace, I would not part with for a thousand worlds. Thine, Lord, for ever thine. I am going to glory, my wedding garment is the righteousness of Christ; my own best righteousness is filthy rags." He faid to his fifter, "Fly vain company; feek an interest in Christ; for which purpose read your bible deeply with feeret prayer; remember it is your aying brother's advice, - which if you neglect, and live to the age of an 100, it will then on your dying bed found like thunder in your ears. I thought I should have been in London foon with my old friends, but I am going to better company; I shall soon join the heavenly hofts, and shout the praises of the Lamb for ever. God's will be done! when I enter

enter Heaven's doors it shall be as the chief of sinners;" then he wanted to be sung,

" Come thou fount of every bleffing,

" Tune my heart to fing thy grace !" &c.

He spoke much of the evil of buying smuggled goods. Then he reasoned on the privilege of dying soon that if he lived longer; he must needs be engaged in the necessary cares of life, which he much seared for himsels."

Monday, the day before his death, he faid, "I shall now foon know whether it will be Christo live, or gain to die; great Captain and Saviour, prepare me for the field; then all will be well!" He foon after faid, " The messenger of death is come, it is in this floft, (alluding to purple spots appearing) and tomorrow the awful the great change will take place, but great ftrength will be given." The next, which was the last, day of his precious life, he was much deranged, and required fix persons to keep him in bed; but never a word, inconsistent with the blessed state of his foul, dropped his lips; and at intervals he was very thankful for the least kindness shewn him, and often, when asked how he was, answered,

3 " Better

"Better than I deferve : I shall not live, and as it was advised for him in his fever to drink quantities of wine (which he did) he faid, "Do not waste the good creatures of God any longer on me, but let me now drink water. I am fighting my last battle, and shall be made more than a conqueror, all is finished." He again grew very outrageous, and was fo for fome time, when the minister came in and proposed prayer; upon which he immediately grew calm, and it was evident, he joined in prayer; for at the end of it he very heartily faid amon; and immediately lifted up, his dying eyes to heaven and prayed, "that the awful providence of his death might be fanctified to all in that house." And almost immediately departed. Thus died this young precious servant of Christ; between five and six o'clock in the evening, August 24th 1790; not nineteen years of age till the 23d of September following.

Thus we see, dear Sir, that precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints. This dear young man was the very person we introduced to you at Mr. W.——'s, when we were in London; since that time he had made a very rapid progress in divine things, and promised

derke which was the laft, day of his precheigs

promised to be a very useful minister of Christ, as he excelled greatly in gifts and grace for that important office. He gave a fweet specimen of it as he exercised his talents while in Cornwall three times, but could not be prevailed on any more as he always gave place to those he thought older in knowledge and experience. Our dear friend Mr. B was fet at liberty the very week after to join, I trust, the heavenly choir; while you and I, dear Sir, are left to combat longer, and, I trust, to know more of the love and grace of our precious Redeemer. I find often when I should be active, and upon the stretch after God, I am halting and ready to faint, forced to cry to the strong one for strength to purfue; but I do not cry enough. Oh to experience more of my own nothingness; and that all fullness of grace; mercy, and truth is in him for the use of poor sinners!

Your continued friendship will much oblige her who is most fincerely and affectionately,

Dear Sir, Your well wisher, &c.

hald salvest and thought and have work Er William

No. XXIII.

local Englacional river

On the death of Miss E. WEST, of Islington, who died March 20th 1792.

HER first illness was about Christmas-eve preceding, when she was seized with a pain in her side, which was not likely then to prove fatal. And having medical assistance, she recovered so far as to be able to attend service in Silver-street Chapel.

Soon after she had a return of her disorder; and for a few days kept her bed, but still had the appearance of getting well; until about a month before her death, she was seized with a violent cough; and other dangerous symptoms (it being a spasm upon her lungs, which soon proved fatal.) A friend, who was a minister, during the latter part of her illness called at her father's house; and finding she was so ill, he took the opportunity of seeing her and conversing with her about her soul; he then spent some time in prayer, which seemed to affect her very much. She thanked him very kindly, and said, "how glad she should be to see him again."

After

After he was gone the nurse asked her, "how the liked the conversation and prayer?" she faid, "Very much, but that the was embarraffed what answers to make, fearing she might not be fufficiently learned in the feriptures." The nurse then asked her, whether she seared death? to which the answered, "I should not, if I was convinced that Christ is my Saviour, as I am a great finner." The nurse replied, "Christ came to fave the worst of finners that looks unto him; which feemed to comfort her, and the for some time lay composed, and it is thought, was deep in prayer. When she got up, the nurse was faying, " she thought the doctors had done her no good." She faid, " No, but my Christ will cure me." Being told, that he was the great physician of fouls, she cried out, "Yes, and he will pour the balm of Gilead into my bosom."

At another time she praised God, and said, "she might well say with David, it is good for me that I was afflicted, and thankful that she was brought to remember her creator in the days of her youth; she added, "she had great reason to praise God, that ever Silver-street Chapel was occupied by her dearest friend Mr.

mark at Chi

I 5 W-'s,

W—s, for that he was the pefon that she received comfort from in that place; and that she was happy whenever she saw him." It was asked her by a friend, whether she should wish to see him? she answered, "Yes, and with great pleasure," I immediately visited her; and to my great surprize and pleasure, found her much concerned for her soul; and verily believe the Lord had begun a saving change on her heart.

After I left her, the prayed earnestly for forgiveness of her fins, and thanked God that she was spared to lie on a fick bed, faying, "what an awful thing it is to be cut off fuddenly!" At times, her cough was fo violent as to threaten immediate death; and the nurse would say how forry the was to fee her fo ill; but the was always displeased at it, saying "it was ber God that faw fit it should be so." On the funday previous to her death a friend visited her; and speaking to her about the state of her foul, hoped " the trufted in Jefus, as a God able and willing to fave her." She faid, "Yes. and that he was in her thoughts day and night." He alfo faid, " that he hoped the had no thoughts vod yd briggide of

of any righteousness of her own to boast of as her dependance." She answered "None but the righteousness of Christ, for she felt herself an unworthy, sinful, dying creature."

Having foent some time in speaking to her of the things concerning her immortal foul, the thanked him and prayed for him and his family. She then expressed a wish that he would call on me and fay, that, if convenient, the longed to fee me the next day; which I did, and found her very near her departure, and was fully fatisfied she was in a safe state. But not having immediately taken minutes of what passed in the conversation, I cannot now relate But this I remember, I found great liberty and comfort in conversation and prayer with her. After I left her, she cried very much, and felt herself a great finner, but did not fear death, having a full confidence of her forgiveness, which the repeatedly thanked God for.

Her father, having a defire of praying by her, went to her, but she was then unable to bear it; but when she saw him again she "expressed a forrow that she refused him; and said she was so weak as not to be able to join him, which

she had wished to do—but that she then could," and having prayed together, he left her very comfortable and easy. At another time, her poor mother (who was constantly anxious to see her) went into the room and asked her "How she was," but receiving no answer, she sat down by the bed; and after some time, her daughter opened her eyes and "begged her mother's pardon for not answering, but she was in prayer, and did not wish to be disturbed." Her mother was much affected and distressed, which she tried to alleviate, by saying "that her loss was ber sure gain;" and then prayed very earnestly for all her friends.

The day before her death she lay as the nurse thought doing, when she attempted to repeat a hymn, but was not able through weakness; but told the nurse, it was Sacred Love, p. 339 in the Chapel-hymn-book. She was oftentimes asked, "whether she wished to live? but always answered, "No,my God sees it good for me I should die."

On the night of her death when some friends were there, one asked her, whether her mind was in that comfortable frame as when he last saw her? she said, "Yes, yes, happy, happy;" and

oll -

and pressing both the hands of him and his wife, she begged the Lord to bless them. She desired him to read to her the 55th chapter of Isaiah, the 17th of St. John, and the 51st Psalm, which he did; and she seemed to receive comfort. After which he requested her to attend to the 23d Psalm, The Lord is my shepherd, &c. and having read it through, she was rejoiced, and begged him to repeat it, saying, "it was marrow to her bones and joy to her dying heart; and loudly critd, "Come Lord Jesus; come quickly! why so long? but I should not complain; not my time, but thine; yet I long to be going."

About ten o'Clock she changed very much, and was thought to be very near eternity, and she desired to see her parents and her friends once more, that she might take her last farewell of them; which she did with a godly considence: and with a smile on her countenance, said, "she prayed for them all, and begged them not to grieve, as it hurt her mind: and added; she was only going a little before, her Lord waited for her. When the Apothecary came, she looked very earnest at him and begged him "not to deceive her in her last moments, as she found herself

herfelf going very fast." He told her it was what might be expected very thortly; and wished to know what were her feelings, that made her suppose herself a dying? The faid "the feemed to have no infide, and was fo weak as to be certain she could not survive long, it being very difficult to her to breath." Hewished human skill could devise any thing that could be of firvice to her; but he faid he was fearful it was in vain: the then prayed for him, and begged the Lord to bless him and the other doctors, and thanked him for being faithful to her in her iliness. He could not refrain from shedding tears; and faid afide to a friend, "This was" dying indeed, like a Christian." Houmaries begapite edit occident

After he was gone, she lay very composed, and very often was heard to say, "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly!" and about 7 o'Clock in the morning she, with a sweet smile on her countenance, resigned her breath and slept in the arms of Jesus.

of between a tree land part to making the

with the in the first and and the found

basical attraction typedanck on partw

Merielf

No. XXIV.

On the death of Mrs. PLASKETT.

" A S I suppose you have heard that my dear fifter was not expected to continue long in this world, you will not be much furprifed to be informed of her death. Though death is fliled the king of terrors (and indeed has fomething exceedingly awful in the idea of it) yet when disarmed of its sting, the believer may triumph in a dying hour, and welcome it-as the messenger of endless joys, as the entrance into eternal life. Such was the case with my dear departed fifter; she languished fome time in encreasing and acute pains, and weakness of body; yet throughout the whole of her illness her foul was exceedingly calm and happy; parting with her children and her husband feemed to be the greatest weight upon her mind; yet the faid, "fhe could refign them into the hands of the God who gave them; hoping, through the grace and mercy of the Lord, to see them again in another and better world." She faid, "the precious promifes of God came very comfortably upon her mind, but shamber the second quite in reprines, and

-nam

and supported her under her violent pain of body," and added, "this light affiction is but for a moment." She used to repeat with great pleasure several of Dr. Watts's Psalms and hymns; particularly the 53d hymn 2d book; 90th hymn 2d book; 140th 2d book; 146 Psalm, and many others. She would often say, "the will of the Lord be done; and it is the Lord, let him do what seemeth him good." And one time when I was there, she cried out,

"A guilty weak and helpless worm, On thy kind arm I fall."

She stopt here, I suppose, through weakness; but foon after, prayed for patience and refignation to the divine will. She reflected with forrow on the great multitudes that were travelling the road to destruction; and prayed with great earnestness to the Lord, " to warn them of their danger." Her friends who conversed with her, while upon her deathbed, professed great comfort and satisfaction in her conversation; one of whom recited to her feveral passages of a fermon the had been reading of the late Dr. Gill's upon the glories of another world, wherein he speaks of knowing as we are known; that thought struck her fo pleasingly that when her husband came into her chamber, the feemed quite in raptures, and menmentioned what her friend had told her, and her thoughts upon it; " There, (aid she, I shall foon fee my grandfather, &c. and Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the faints of old." Aye, faid her husband, and there you will see your late minister Mr. B, at which she seemed much pleafed, and replied with a lively accent, "O I wish it may be to night! I hope it will be to She afterwards faid, " that scripture ran much in her mind, the words of our Lord to the thief on the cross, To-day shalt thou be with me in Paradise." Which words were verified in her case, for this was but the night preceding the morning of her death. A change appeared in her about 4 o'clock, and with great alertness she drew her arms from under the bed clothes, and held them up, which she had not been able to do for fometime before, and cried out, to their great furprize, with an exceeding loud voice, "O God, thou art my God;" and with her eyes fledfastly fixed upwards she added, "I am coming:" and then, "Lord, I cannot come, (meaning of herfelf) O help me to come; O armies of Heaven, come and fetch me! O Father, Son and Holy Spirit, come, come, come!" repeating the words very often, with lively and unspeakable

expression in her countenance: and then with joyful accent full of admiration, the cried out, "What do I fee! O what do I hear! The Spirit and the bride fay, come; they all fay, come away; I want to come, but Lord I'can't come. O Lord Tefus, Why are thy chariot robeels fo long a tarrying? O Lord Jefus. come quickly." She then defired the nurse and another person to lay her down that she might die. She-foon after closed her eyes and fell afleep sweetly in Jesus.

serie dies aba. No XXV. ode red is besteren

their ore led any pile and pine son his Lettine of properly the approprint of tall legils. A charge

I was favoured with the following Letter from my late worthy friend J. T .-- N, Efq. of contest the residence of the land

to the design and the color

Dear Sir,

State Soron ASAM

"I thought you would like to fee the account of poor Honor who was ordered by Dr. Fothergill into her native air near Stockton. She died at her fifter's at Seaton, and could get no farther, though the continued feveral weeks; the sew very client, with thirty and prove was

was house-maid, when we had the favour of your company at C----."

Ann Mann, to Eliza Mann.

HIS comes to let you know that our dear fifter departed this life on Thursday last night about 11 o'clock. On faturday morning about o o'clock fhe had a fit, and was almost speechless all the morning, till the Lord was pleafed to reveal his love to her; then the broke out with fuch raptures of joy, and faid, "My Jesus is come for me; do not you behold him?" and clapped her hands with i a smile, and said, "Come now and see a true; christian die. All my pain and forrow has now left me, and my Jesus is come for me, who appears altogether lovely; O praise him, praise him: Many a happy day have I had, but never fuch an one as this; for I now enjoy more happinels than any tongue can express, now I can triumph over death and hell. My dear friends, do not grieve for me; you have more reason to grieve for yourselves; for I am happy: would you be forry for me to go now to glory ! with my Jesus? O praise him, for he is not a hard mafter; and do not let it discourage your when you fee me enjoy fo much happiness before

fore I go to glory; there is many a true christian, who never enjoys so much happiness as I have done, before I go to glory with my Jesus! O praise him for ever! But I am afraid that I am going to return to the world again; that it is not the Lord's time yet; for my Jesus is gone behind the curtain; but I would not die a minute before the Lord's time. Sifter, the faid, go to Hartlepool and do your work; and if I be gone to Heaven before you come back, you will not murmur. This is the best bed I ever laid on in my life; for this is the bed that is to fet me to glory." She talked very fweetly most of the day; and at night she grew very heavy for sleep; and refted very well all that night; but she seemed to be very dull, and her voice was altered much all the next day till night. Mrs. W. came to fee her; and then the Lord was pleafed to manifest his love to her, and permitted her to talk to her, and to praise her Jesus; and then the was carried on till Thursday, when she grew very ill, almost racked in pain, till about II o'clock, and then she faid, " she was better:" after that she was speechless; and we faw that fhe was dying; and fhe continued for till about 10 o'clock, when she looked up * 6001 G and

and faid, "Now He is come, my Jesus is come for me." We are all much troubled for the loss of such a dear fister; but "we ought not to grieve for her; she said, if we did, we should be forrowing when she should be rejoicing?" But we are so weak and frail, we cannot but join in a heart-felt sense of it."

To J. T—n, Esq. from the mother of this young person.

Hon. Sir,

"I thank God, and you, for the kind favours my dear child received from you. O that I may be for ever thankful to God, who orders and rules all things, who directed my poor straggling child to you, and made you an instrument, in his hand, of her conversion. My prayer is, that God may bless you with all spiritual blessings; and grant that every branch of your family may be true branches of the true vine.

Honor was carried on much in the same way as I gave you an account of in my last; till about 4 or 5 days before her death; then she seemed to us to be troubled, spoke very little, but

but now and then would fay, "My beloved has hid himfelf behind the curtain;" and then, "God will not leave me." Before the day of her departure, the rejoiced greatly and faid, "I fee my beloved; come and praise him: O my mother, fifter, and all my friends, praise him!" Then faid, "Dear friends, do not think that I fee Jesus with my bodily eyes, but I see him by faith; he is precious to me." Thus was the carried on, fometimes rejoicing, fometimes still and composed. On the 15th instant, she was very weak, and could not speak, that we could hear, without being very near her, and continued fo till about 11 o'clock on the fame night; then the cried out with a strong voice, "He is come; praise him, praise him!" and so expired. Value for on

O dear Sir! accept my hearty thanks for your kind favours to me and mine, which is all the return I can make. May the Lord bless and guide you and yours, and in his own due time land you in glory! then will you and your departed fervant be both employed in finging glory to God and to the Lamb, who hath redeemed and washed us with his blood.

I am, your humble Servant,

Stockton, May 22, 1777.

Efther Mann,"

to stake the Rougest e

As the following dream was remarkable, and transmitted by the same respectable gentleman who favoured me with the above, I beg leave to insert it here:

HONOR Mann, aged 25, in a night of February 1777, was exceedingly opprest with illness, which then became threatening to life and greatly weakened her; she had, for some weeks before, had symptoms of a rapid consumption; and amongst some bright, yet had suffered some dark hours, in soul-concerns; when it pleased God to give her strong consolations (from the following dream) which mercifully continued in a great measure, tho under great weakness of body, and increasing distemper.

She thought herfelf situated in a reclining posture at the entrance of a large door or pair of gates; which, when opened to her, discovered Hell, and pictured the horrors of that place of torment, in colours beyond description. She then had a view of those sufferings, the smake of which ascends up for ever and ever; attended with such an hideous noise, as was enough

e

n

0

to make the stoutest tremble. No fight she had ever feen on earth was able to convey anyidea of the dreadfulness of the place, or its inhabitants. From the midst of their infernal society came forth fatan with all his hellish rage and called her to come to him with an authoritative voice: which when the refused, he forung forward, as if to feize her for his property; nor did she then perceive him bound; but fmiling at him, without one fingle fear, fet her foot against the door, crying out "I am the Lord's, and thou knowest thou can'ft not touch me;" she was sure he could not take her foul; and then she leaned more back as if to get farther off; when after fome fresh struggles to approach her, and she keeping her faith still fixed on Jesus, he at length fet up a most hideous roar and lest her; the doors clofing upon him.

Immediately a kind hand was held out for her relief, on which she laid hold; and with one spring was listed up from that situation to a place of safety; the movement of which awoke her and lest so sweet a serenity on her soul, notwithstanding bodily sufferings (which were that night very grievous) as made it the happiest night she ever remembered. She blessed God

for giving such faith in sleep, as proved a prop to her waking spirits, and made her say, "Tho' she loved her friends well, from which she was likely so soon to part, yet she loved Jesus better, and was willing to go at his call; humbly thankful for all the steps of converting and quickening grace, and her lot being cast where it had been of so much advantage—and admiring and wondering at the mildness of her sickness, if it was intended to be her finishing one."

No. XXVI.

A Young woman, servant to a gentleman at Bath, was called of God in the year 1788, as a certain minister was in his way to Dublin: She, like the woman of Samaria, could not help speaking of the things she had heard and experienced to her fellow-servants; and the Lord was pleased to accompany her words with a divine blessing to three or four of them: the coachman in particular was turned away from his service for fear, (as his master said) that he would turn his horses to be methodists, and drive him to hell.

Vol. III.

K

In

In the lummer 1793, the master himself being taken ill, and given over by the physicians, one day he asked them, "if they thought there was any hope of his recovery?" they replied in the negative; feveral of his friends were in the room at the fame time, and the fervant beforementioned was then waiting upon the company; the gentleman, with great concern, faid, " And can none of you all be of any fervice to a dying man?" He then spoke to this young woman, "Nor can you help me in this my present sad condition?" The replied, "Sir, all that I can do is to pray for you; and that I have done many times." He answered with some emotion, "Did you ever pray for me?" I infift on it, that you pray for me now; shut the door, let not one go out of the room." With fear and trembling the obeyed; and no fooner was prayer ended; but putting his hands together he faid, "Now I know that Christ is God, and able to forgive my fins."

He lived a few days longer, and gave happy evidence of the power and grace of God, even at the eleventh hour.

No. XXVII.

Extract of a Letter from a worthy minister of the go/pel concerning the death of his father, an aged labourer in the Lord's Vineyard.

Rev. SIR,

the thought the

"YOU have certainly heard that my truly venerable father fell asseep in Jesus about the end of last year. Long had he been in the world as a swallow lest in winter, and it was the daily breathing of his soul, "When shall the day of my redemption come? When shall I see my Lordin glory?" He talked as easily, and with as much (I should say with much greater) satisfaction of death and its consequence, as you, I suppose, lately did of your long journey; and when the trumpet sounded for his jubilee, he was waiting, with a smile on his countenance, for the answer of a prayer, which he often put up in his last illness, "Come Lord Jesus, come quickly."

My brother was suddenly called home about a twelvemonth ago. Oh! that I could indeed learn to follow them who through faith and patience inherit the promises; I endeavour to maintain a daily struggle with

K 2

fin and hell, and to occupy the spot of the Vineyard which I am called to labour till the master come. I desire not to be unthankful that I have reason to think I do not labour altogether in vain. A stout hearted sinner in this parish was, I have no doubt, lately savingly brought home to Jesus; and is now walking humbly with God. Grace! grace!"

No. XXVIII.

ad a bias bas politics as he

and of tall teer. Light had no been it ene

and the The state of the small marks bulgared.

MRS. W, a lady of my acquaintance, was visited in her last illness by another friend of mine, and testified great joy at her coming. She was then in great pain, but enjoyed such sweet composure, that the friend's expression was "I longed to lie in her stead, and to be as soon dismissed from a world of sin and forrow."

She testified, "that God is love---He hath done all things well--- We do all ill---but there is mercy with him, and plenteous redemption. I can trust his faithfulness; his compassions fail not."

She

She requested her friend to pray "that God would afford her the sweet consolations of his spirit, to support her in the awful hour. After her pain quitted her, she lay perfectly composed and sensible, and looked sweetly. She was speechless for seven hours before her departure; but when she looked on her friend, and she in consequence spoke some comfortable promise, such as, Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, she took her hand in testimony to the truth of that blessed promise. And just before her death, she looked earnestly at her friend; and immediately expired.

Who but Christ can thus deliver from the thing of death!

No. XXIX.

to the order of the factor of the factor

A Lady of distinction, an acquaintance of the Editor, had, through grace, under the most excruciating agonies of pain and sickness in body, through an illness of very long continuance, manifested a degree of submission, patience and resignation, which astonished all K3 about

about her; particularly her physician, who had never met with such an example of christian fortitude, under such fufferings, in all his practice.

To these were added severe inward conflicts, and sore temptations from the great enemy of souls, for a season. However, on Sunday, August 17, 1794, the scene was changed indeed, satan was put to slight by the power of her Almighty Redeemer, and she rejoiced with joy unspeakable and sull of glory; saying she was "happy, very happy; Oh! the mercy, the mercy! that her dear Saviour was ready to receive her; that angels were about her bed, and she longed to be one of them."

On Monday, when speaking to her brother, she appeared to be without a doubt or fear, and quoted the following passage of scripture with peculiar delight: "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee." She said, the souls of all the samily were upon her heart; and spoke to those about her on the things of God,

anience and refignation, which aftenilhed all

Suoda

as well as she was able through great weak-ness.

She was in much pain during that night; but feemed easy at her final dismission—The last words she uttered about twenty minutes before her departure were, "Oh! my Lord."

No. XXX.

Some of the last expressions of Mrs. ELIZABETH COLLINS, wife of the Rev. Mr. C. who departed this life July 4, 1794, aged 33 Years.

ing her husband, she faid, "Mr. C. pray for me; for mone can deliver me but him.—My mind is happy, and I am perfectly resigned to the will of God, for either life or death.—The enemy of souls has been tempting me many times, for several months past; but I am now happy, and the Lord keeps the enemy from me.—Blessed Lord, brighten up my evidences for eternal glory.—Support me un-

der my trials, if it is thy divine will. - I want my evidences brightened for glory; O my precious Jesus, blessed Lord, wean me from every thing of time and sense.-I depend entirely upon Jefus Christ for my everlasting happiness, and I hope I shall not be disappointed -I have defired to follow him ever fince I was eighteen years old; and I expect to praise him to all eternity.—Sweet Jefus! into thine hands I commend my spirit.-Christ is a sure foundation for my foul; praised be his dear name !- My blessed Jefus! my precious Christ! thou art my all .- I love thee above all; and I am refigned to thy will. I love Jefus Christ with my whole heart; and I have no other refuge but him .-I have no other dependance but upon Christ for falvation; I have no merit of my own.-If I die in the Lord, O what a bleffing will that be! O my dear Jesus! take me to thyself .-I want to be gone to my bleffed Master, if it is his heavenly will.—I long for my dissolution, that I may be with Christ in heaven; Yes, yes, yes, I do. - O my dear Lord take me under thy kind care and protection.-My bleffed Jefus, take me home: my dear Jesus take me home!-I hope I shall enjoy an everlasting blis, when

I go from heuce.—I cannot fink while Jesus lives; I cannot, I cannot; no, indeed I cannot.—I am very happy and comfortable; and the comfort arises from my expectation of being soon at home.—I find Christ precious, and I hope I shall enjoy his presence through the countless ages of eternity."

"Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, Under thine own Almighty wings."

"Precious Jesus! be with me in the dark valley of the shadow of death—dear Jesus, come to me; blessed Jesus take me to thysels.—I do not desire to live; I long to be with Christ in Paradise."

"Praise God from whom all bleffings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Hoiy Ghost."

"I expect to be with Christ in heaven, before to-morrow night.—Precious Jesus! into thine I hands I commit my spirit; thou hast redeemed me, O Lord God of truth." To her husband, at another time, she said, "Cease to weep for me; we part only for a time; we shall meet again in heaven to part no more.—I have as it

K 5

were

were, been in the other world; this world is nothing to me; O my dear Jesus! O my dear Jesus! O my dear Jesus! O my dear Jesus! Thou art my resuge, O Lord,—All is of grace, all my change come? I long for my change to come, that I may be at home.—Sweet Jesus, into thine hands I commend my spirit; sweet Lord! sweet Jesus!"

At her dying request I preached her funeralfermon to a numerous audience at Kingston, from the words herself had chose for that occasion, Matt. xi. 28, 29, 30. a passage which had first been blest to her soul's awakening.

No. XXXI.

An account of the extraordinary dealings of God in the experience of SARAH MANWARING, who died Feb. 22, 1789, in the 29th year of her age.

SHE had been in a declining state for some months, but hoping it might please the Lord to restore her, she did not let her parents know

know it till she was too far gone: about the Christmas before her death, it was discovered that she was scarce able to walk; on enquiry, she was found to bein a deep decline, and much distressed at times on account of the state of her soul; often saying to her sister, "if she was but satisfied of her interest in Christ, she should not be in fear of death."

Sometimes she would say she was very comfortable, but this seldom lasted long; she used to lie whole nights without sleep, constantly intreating the Lord "to satisfy her that she was his, and to seal her by the comfortable assurance of his holy spirit in her heart, and that he would earry her safe through the dark valley of the shadow of death."

open her mind freely, unless "when the cloud was removed" (as she used to express it.) Thus she went on from time to time, sometimes being a little comfortable, and sometimes for days under a cloud and much darkness.

OnLord's day, 1st February, when the family came home from morning-service, she seemed very low; her father seeing it, asked her the cause? she burst out in a flood of tears, and said

"The was very uncomfortable; the wanted her evidences for heaven cleared up, and her unbelieving fears done away." After pointing out force comfortable portions of the word, and defiring her to intreat the Lord to fulfil them to her, the was much fet at liberty; and (as the fince told him) "from that time the Lord feemed to give her a spirit of grace and supplication;" and for many days she had a sweet communion with the Lord, and much liberty of soul.

On the following Lord's day evening, the gave the following account of the dealings of God with her foul to one of her married fifters, who flayed with her all the evening, viz. "that being instructed in the truths of the gospel from a child, she could fix no time or date, as to her conversion; but that it pleased the Lord, from time to time, to convince her by little and little of her ruined state, by nature and practice, under various ministers of the gospel, which the, with the rest of the family used to attend; and for a long time was much diffressed to think that the never was able to offer up prayer to the Lord without a book; till one Lord's day, as the was hearing the Rev. Mr. H ---- at Spa-Fields Chapel, on Hannah's prayer, I Sam. chap.

chap. i. ver. 12 and 13, &c. Mr H--- repeating feveral times, that there might be some distreffed foul, like Hannah, there whole lips might be moving in a spirit of prayer and supplication, yet might think they were not praying; "but, (faid he,) the Lord heareth that prayer as much as a person with the best gift of utterance, for the Lord looketh on the heart." She directly concluded, " that the was that perfon, as her foul was then looking up to the Lord for a bleffing;" and from that time she was enabled to come before the Lord and make known all her wants and diffreffes, without a book, which the never used after. But when Mr. H--left the Chapel, the was greatly diffressed, till the editor of this book came; under whose ministry, her father fays, she was greatly bleffed and found much comfort and near communion with the Lord at whole feet she was enabled to cast all her burdens; yet still she suffered much distress of mind to think she enjoyed every privilege of God's children but on; viz. that of joining with them at the Lord's table; which fhe frequently stayed to fee, but dared not approach; till one Lord's day, staying as usual, the Rev. Mr. Knight, in giving an exhortation to the people faid, " Perhaps there

may be some distressed soul here, that may be kept back from this ordinance, on this confideration, that though they may have had promiles from the Lord to know they were his, yet cannot at this moment fay it:" he added, " Suppose some dear friend at his death had left you fomething as a token to look at in remembrance of him; as oft as you faw the gift, you would remember the giver." After he had applied it, he faid, " Just in this view you ought to come, and not keep back from the Lord's table." She immediately got up, And nothing on earth (faid fhe) could have kept me back; and when I got to the table, the Lord gave me such near views of his dying love and glorious refurrection, and fuch fweet communion with himself as I never could express." From that time she always grieved when she loft an opportunity of attending on the Lord's table, though she did not always enjoy such manifestations of his love in these privileges as at the first-Thus she went on from time to. time greatly bleffed and comforted.

of the state of the paper of the state of the state of

VEE

on an ing it in a large A . I A . in the Soon.

Soon after this she had an opportunity of hearing me at Mr. Aldridge's, on Pfalm xxiii. i. the Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want : this the often mentioned the last week before her death; and also to me when I saw her last; and indeed it feemed to be a day much to be remembered by her, which she always mentioned with delight. She was again greatly refreshed under another sermon she heard me preach at Mr. Hill's chapel, on Zechariah iii. & Hear thou, O Joshua the high priest, thou and thy fellows that fit before thee, for they are men wondered at; which left fuch lively impression on her heart, that there was scarce a day in her last illness that she did not break out with faying, " Oh what a miracle of grace! Oh what a wonder of wonders shall I be when I get to Heaven! I shall be a wonder to myself, a wonder to men, and a wonder to angels." Her general frame of mind feemed to be that of a forrowful spirit; The was very referred, unless it was to old experienced christians. whom the much valued: the used to say when any thing grieved her, "I take all my complaints to the Lord :" her growth in grace feemed conspicuous to all the family for the dast four years, infomuch that her father had violary

faid more than once that he thought she was ripening for glory: she seemed to be always pleased when any one was talking of the glories of Jesus, and of the love and union of heart which would be enjoyed in Heaven throughout the whole church above, in praising God and the Lamb for ever and ever.

From the Lord's-day, Feb. 8. The was very comfortable; and told several of the family, that she grieved she had not attended to the ordinance with so much delight as she ought, and which, she knew, was her privilege.

On Friday 13, she complained to her fister of great darkness of soul and remained much distressed, till Lord's-day evening, when it pleased the Lord to shine with great power into her soul, giving her joy and peace in believing; "Now, said she, I can truly say, Jesus bath done all things well." She continued in this sweet frame all day on Monday; and told her brother, "Now I am ready, and can face death with comfort; the sting of death is now taken away; my sins are washed away through faith in Jesus, and he gives me the victory.

of

n

g

ne

t,

er

cb

it

er

e-

us

i-

y.;

an is

ay he

ry

victory over death and the grave." In the afternoon she said to her father, " I am now perfectly refigned to the will of my once crucified but now exalted Lord; who, I am fatisfied, doth all things well; nor have I a wish to live one moment longer than I should live to his glory, as all this perishing world can give is nothing in my esteem, when I view the glories prepared for those who love and follow the Lamb." Though she had much pain in her limbs, and could hardly breath, she never once complained, but faid, "What are all my fufferings to those of many of God's people? but when I think on the fuffering of Jesus on Mount Calvary, why should I complain? It is enough, Jesus hath done all things well." A friend of hers read the 17th ch. of John; their conversation turned on the 20th and following verses, on the near union and oneness of the believer with Christ, and the glory that was to be revealed to every believer in Christ, through the death, refurrection; and interceffion of Jesus. She said to her friend, "My foul is so full of contolation in Jesus that I think I have lost all my pains, I feel I am quite well; I feem as if I was quite strong. Soon

Soon after the cried with a loud voice. "Lord" Jesus, Lord Jesus, O' Lord Jesus." With her eyes fixed as towards Heaven. looking round, the faid, "Lord, haft thou brought me back to this finful world again?" And turning round to her father, " O father! my earthly father, I have been in Heaven, I' have seen Jesus. O! he has brought Heaven down into my foul" To her fifter, on feeing her weeping, the faid "Do not grieve, my fifter, do not weep; you have no cause to weep; Jesus has made me happy. O! he has brought-Heaven down into my foul, and he will do the fame for you in his own time; Jefus has done all things well. O father! my earthly father, you have been a kind father to me, do not fear, the Lord will take care of you. O! brother, how good the Lord is to me, to me a vile finner, a wretch undone." Then calling for her brother and his wife, and both her married fifters with their husbands, charged each of them not to weep, but rejoice on her behalf; faid the wanted to fee every one of them, and then the Lord would take her home: "I shall soon be with him; I want to see them all before I die." When they came, looking

looking round on all, and feeing them weeping, the faid, " I defire you will not weep but rejoice with me; you fee how happy he has made me 2 poor finful creature." Then turning with a finile to her father, " O my earthly father ! for I have one in Heaven, Ah! wes, my: heavenly father, he has done all things for me, gave his fon to die, to die for me. Oh what. wonders! to fave me, and you, father, you mother, you my brothers and fifters, all of you! O what a comfort to think I shall meet you all, all, every one of you, around the throne, all! yes, finging the praises of God and the Lamb, for ever and ever ! O there we shall all meet, there we shall see the glory of God shining in Jesus Christ, God-man for ever; (turning to her father with a fweet smile,) yes, father, for ever and ever. O sweet! O how shall I rejoice! washed from my fins in his blood; cloathed with the white robe of his righteousness; O! how shall I shine! O! praise, all praise, praise, heaven, earth, all things, praise! O! all is mine! Christ, Christ is mine, earth, life, death; all all is mine, Jesus is mine; O glory, glory, glory! Happy, happy, O! how happy shall I be when in his time he shall raise me up! in bis. time,

time, O that's the beff time." When the was put to bed, the was obliged to fit nearly upright, owing to her breath being fo fhort she could not lie down, but continued all night with a heavenly fmile on her countenance, her very eyes sparkling with divine joy, finging and talking of the glory of Jesus, and telling her mother and fifter (who fat up with her,) "what a gracious saviour Jusus was, and how great the glory she should have when in his time he took her to heaven; and as a proof, faid fle, he has brought down Heaven into my foul! O! what glories do I fee in Jefus. O mother! he has shewn me his glery, now you may see he hath done all things well." Seeing them both weep, she said, " do not weep, mother, you have been a kind mother to me; do not weep, my fifter, you have no cause to weep, but to rejoice on my behalf. I am fure you have done all you could for me; her fifter faid. "We do rejoice to see you so happy in Jesus; and if we were as happy and comfortable as you, we should not be in fear of death. We could wish ourselves to be in your stead." " O! faid she, that's wrong, you must wait the Lord's time. I know you both have many fears; you have often told me fo, but still you have

have no cause to fear, your faith an I mine is the fame, there is no difference between your faith and the faith he has given me; only mine is the assurance of faith ; but you see I am a dying, and dying grace is for dying times; fear not, he will give you a comfortable affurance in his own time; but he is a fovereign, and you may not have fuch great joy as is given me; he will give you as much joy and grace in believing, as he sees fit, and no more: therefore pray weep no more, but rejoice on my behalf, he hath done all things well, rest on his promiles; you know he hath fair, I will never leave nor for sake thee; O do not grieve nor fret yourselves; you have no cause, if you were to die with me, you are as safe in Jesus as I am, only not so comfortable; but go on, plead his promises; you see I am a witness for him that he is as good as his word, and that he doth all things well. O! he does, he does."

Many friends came to see her on Tuesday, and as soon as they entered the room she knew them, called them by name, took them by the hand and said, "O! see what great things Jesus hath done for me; he hath washed me from

from my fins in his blood, his precious blood; me, a poor finner, a vile creature, and made me a witness of his faithfulness to his promises. Oh! he has, he has, O! how shall I shine above when, in his time, he takes me to himself, cloathed in the white robe of his righteousness! Oh fee, my Jefus hath done all things well, I shall foon be with him." Thus she went on all day, and wanted to have five hundred prefent, that I may (faid she) tell them how happy Jesus has made me." When one told her I was coming to fee her, "Well, I shall be glad to fee him, but I know not what I shall fay to him:" After a little pause, she answered, "The Lord will give me what to fay, for you know I can fay nothing of myfelf, it is the Lord, 'tis O! I have all in Jesus, Oh! I the Lord. have, I have, I shall soon be with him; after he hath fent all my friends to fee me, then he will take me home." Some persons, who came to fee her, she intreated to forsake something she faw wrong in their conduct and to do fo no more, but to ask of the Lord grace and strength to do his will. To others, whom she thought not to be clear in their understanding, she faid, "See how happy Jesus hath made me a poor dying creature; not for any thing in me, worthless wretch;

wretch; but he has done all for me, and all in me; you are feeking the Lord too much in your own strength, but wait on him, he will lead you to see that you; can do nothing; and that he will do all in you; for my Jesus will do all things well."

About eight on Tuesday night we sung a hymn of her own chusing, viz:

There is a fountain fill'd with blood," &c.

Wednesday morning, she was in such a composed spiritual frame of mind, that it was a cheaven on earth to talk with her; her eyes sparkling with divine joy, and her countenance very cheerful, though some part of the day so very weak as not to be able to speak out; but when the could utter her expressions the faid with a heavenly smile, "O my dear father, you have been a kind father to me, you have done all you could for me all my life, by instruction, &c. but it was the Lord who hath began and compleated his work both in me and for me. I hope you will Inot grieve but rejoice that the Lord hath thus prepared me for himself, and I am fure I shall soon be with him. I feel myself

myself very weak; but blessed be his name he puts strength into my foul. O! father, how does it comfort my heart, to think that you and I, with all this family, will in his good time meet again above, at his right hand, never to part again; there we shall praise him for ever and ever, and fing the fong of Mofes and the Lamb. I wish I could tell you the glories that Jesus hath shewn me last night, and on monday night last, when you thought I was in a fit; but indeed the heaven of glory, I then and last night saw in Jesus, was too great for my weak body and foul to bear up under. I was perfectly in my fenses, though my foul was ready to fly out of my body for joy; I could not find words for what I wished to say, neither on Monday night, nor yesterday; nor can I now tell you what I have feen and heard, he has not only brought heaven down into my foul, but I verily believe I have been in vision with him all night, I cannot find words to tell you or express the glorious things I have feen; he has shewn me so much of his glory and his kingdom that it has been too much for me; I wish I could te'l you, but I cannot now I am fo weak, yet I feel it here(putting her hand on her heart) O! father, it is fo great you cannot conceive; but I feel myfelf

myself so weak, I cannot talk much. She told her mother and sister nearly the same in the course of the day. She then desired her father to read the 1st chap. I Samuel. on Hannah's Prayer; and sing part of her favourite hymn, which ends each verse with,

"My Jefus hath done all things well."

She continued in this fweet frame, without any cloud or darkness all that week; each day pointing out at morning and evening what chapter should be read and what hymn to sing, often making remarks, saying "At such or such time, I was much comforted, &c. or much blessed by that chapter or that verse," &c.

On Friday night she said to her father, "You know several of the ministers have informed me that it is likely the tempter may yet come to disturb my peace and joy which the Lord has given me, I therefore intreat you all to have me much on your hearts in prayer that he may gain no advantage of me, but that Jesus may make me more than conqueror over him." When I was with her on Saturday, it was delightful and wonderful to hear her sing, as if her soul would leap out of her body; Vol III.

her eyes sparkling with joy, when she sung that part of the hymn,

"Free grace can death itself out-brave,
And take its sting away,
Can souls unto the utmost save,
And them to heaven convey."

The fame evening, after I had left her, her father admiring her patience and refignation, faid to her, "My dear Sarah, I rejoice to find that the Lord has given you so much patience. nor have I heard you either complain or fo much as pray for deliverance, for the Lord to take you home." "No, father, (faid she with a fweet fmile) his time is the best time; he has washed away my sins, through faith in his blood; and I shall soon be with him, and see him as he is, he comforts me here with a heaven in my foul, and he will foon take me home: and oh! how shall I shine in that white robe of his righteousness, which he will put on me! till then I am content to wait his time; I do not defire to go one moment before his time; his time is the best time."

All this Evening she sat, as it were talking to herfelf; fometimes loud, fome times low; her lips moving constantly; "O! my foul, he has given thee proof he will never leave; thee, nor forfake thee, O! no, he will not, he cannot deny himself, he is God. O! the fufferings of that God-man Fesus: Jesus hath done all things well-What! for me, O vile guilty creature, O how did he prove his love to me! O what a miracle of grace! O what a wonder of wonders shall I be, when he takes me home! I shall be a wonder to myself." Then again she broke out aloud with the following hymn, Lais no danla alamen ing the cited wing and action of Could Julie.

"In Christ my treasure's all contain'd," &c.

Reports compression) a (like the of Survey

which will a train a fraction of the state o

She dwelt much on the 2d verfe, at a standard

- at the tist about the disease with differ least area that "With him I daily love to walk; Of him my foul delights to talk; On him I cast my every care; Like him one day I shall appear."

And laid great stress on this line,

"And him in every thing employ." La 2 ma sib con la On so laye med a

On this night she desired her mother might sit up with her; "for (sid she) I believe it will be the last night." She continued all night as in the day; talking of "her own sinfulness and vileness, and of the glories of Jesus, of his death, resurrection, intercession, the glory of his person," &c. and how happy she should be when, in his own time, he should take her to himself." When any one looked across the room at her, she instantly, with a smiling contenance, nodded two or three times, telling them all is well, Jesus hath done all things well."

About fix o'clock, on the Lord's day morning, she cried with a loud voice, "Lord Jesus, Lord Jesus, O Lord Jesus! thy glory, glory, O thy glory! Happy, happy, O how happy has he made me in himself! Ah how has he filled my soul with his love! hallelujah, hallelujah, &c &c." till her voice was lost. She then was silent till about 8 o'clock, as in deep meditation; her lips moving, her eyes sparkling, and a sweet serenity on her countenance that words cannot describe (like that of Stephen before his accusers.) At eight, she said, "O what a vile sinner! O what a precious Saviour! O what wonderous love! O Calvary! to die on Calvary, to save me a

vile creature, worthless unclean wretch! but he has washed me from my sins, and cloathed me in his righteousness:" then lifting up both her hands with eagerness, her eyes looking up as to heaven, she cried out, "He stands, (I see it) he stands ready to receive me;" and then with a heavenly smile, she said, "here I am, Lord, I shall soon be with thee—Hallelujah," &c. &c. till her voice died away.

About nine o'clock, as she sat silent, her countenance changed, as in diffress, she put up both her hands as though she would hide her eyes and face from her friends' view. father went to her, and asked how she was; fhe answered with a low voice, "I am made a spectacle to angels;" but in about half an hour the again faid, with her usual smile, "O! the victory of Jesus for me! O! the glory of that place where I shall praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost in one God, for ever and ever. Hallelujah," &c. &c. till her voice was spent. She foon began again, with her eyes fixed upwards, "Lord Jesus come! O Christ come! Christ, Christ, Christ come, O do not depart! O come, dear Lord, come!"at last she cried out, "O! he is come, he is come! O! Lord thou doft all things well L3

well, All is well." But the enemy was still determined to disturb, though he could not destroy.

About one o'clock feveral friends came in with some of her brothers, &c. she began as usual, called her father to tell him how happy the was in Jesus; when all on a sudden the cried out, "The tempter is come, the tempter is come, and Jefus is departed; O! my head, my head! O! my pains, my back! what fhall I do? what shall I do? to be in torments for ever and ever, O! to be in pain! O! father did you ever fee any one die so hard as I do? but to be thut out from that dear face for ever. who can bear it?" Some of her friends and her brothers pointed out to her the faithfulness of Jesus, in saving and delivering all his people; but the faid, "O! he is departed, and gone, Jefus will have no more to do with me." She then made a paufe, and faid "Well, I will go to his feet, and cast myfelf there. Who knows, who knows, but he will return? he will come, he will not tarry." By this time her father had fought out a hymn, and was just giving it out, when she cried, "He is come, Jesus is come." Then she joined and fung louder than ever the was heard to fing in all her life.

She again began to talk of the glories of Jefus as before, with delight; then was quite calm and composed, as in deep thought, for fome time; she said, "O father, Jesus has gained the victory for me over the tempter. O! do tell Mrs. W. and all my friends, that Jesus has conquered the enemy for me, 'tis he that got the victory; O! what glory shall I soon be in! where I shall see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, all the Prophets, the Apostles, Martyrs, Ministers, with all the Saints: and you. father, with all my brothers and fifters; O! what a comfort! O what a day will that be, when we shall praise Father, Son, and Holy Gbost in one Jehovah, three Persons in one God for ever and ever!" She remained filent the rest of the day, except when she was spoke to; then she answered, "All was well."

About nine o'clock, after the family had been at prayer, she said, "Father, I have been all this evening singing the praises of Jesus, and have also joined with you in prayer now." About ten o'clock, her father asked her if she was

L 4

com-

comfortable? The faid, "Yes, Jesus hath done all things well, All is well." A few minutes after, her father perceiving the was just a going off, asked his last question again; she answered, "comfortable," and in about three or four minutes fell asleep in the Lord.

Such was the triumphant death of one, who, through fear of death, was all her life time subjiet to bondage.

No. XXXII.

J. C-G, Esq; a gentleman of large fortune, of a very respectable character, and an intimate friend of the editor, had long known the things of God, and for many years sat constantly under the gospel. He had the peculiar happiness of knowing that his former wife, and only surviving daughter by her, had died triumphantly in the faith a sew years before his departure, which took place March 27, 1792.

HE was taken ill on Tuesday night the 20th of March 1792. On Wednesday he said

to Mrs. C. "My dear, I am fully perfuaded this illness is for death." In the evening he appeared better, feemed defirous to live, and continued between whiles fo till the Thurfday morning following, when he broke out and faid, "My dear, what have I been about? it is high time that my thoughts be turned;" and added, "in a few hours more I shall see my bleffed Jesus." She replied, "have you full hope?" "Oh! faid he, if I had not, of all men I should be the most miserable." And then faid, "I would not for ten thouland worlds, come back again." He then repeated this verie, and may to remain and out

Your kind companion, thro' life's chec-"I'll tell to all poor finners round, What a dear Saviour I have found; I'll point to thy redeeming blood, And fay, Behold the way to God," Toll

He was very anxious about his children; but faid he was confident none of his would be . loft." And must we twine for her the Cypress-wreath,

About two hours before his departure, he observed Mrs. C. in tears, and said, "What do you cry for? we shall meet again never one to part. " the behand I she with the prome of the bear with death, and not the stee that the sail.

Mos. C. "My down I has fall perfunde

No. XXXIII.

On the death of Mrs. WILDBORE, who departed this life, May 12, 1788, near Falmouth in Cornwall, aged 52.—As also on the death of her eldest son, Cornelius Wildbore, who departed this life 11 months ofter his Mother, at the late Rev. Mr. Buncombe's Academy in Devon, aged 19, both written by a friend at Bath.

Addressed to the Rev. Mr. Wand on z, of Falmouth,

Your kind companion, thro' life's checgher'd ways, a condition life is the

Your gracious wife who, three and twenty

Bore half your woes, and wip'd away your tears, No longer here to shew her fond regard, To footh your mind, when troubles press you hard?

And must we twine for her the Cypress-wreath,
Who lately mourn'd a much lov'd sister's death*?

•Mrs. Wildbore's fister died in Westmoreland the New Years day before she herself departed. Her brother died the February after her own death, and her eldest son the April after that. And has she trod that path we all must tread, That downward path to filence and the dead? She has -- and found (by cares no more oppres'd) That envyld bed, where all the weary rest: Where Zion's trav'llers, finking to repose, Forget the world, with all its train of woes; But while on earth's cold lap she rests her head, Her foul exulting to her Saviour fled; Enjoys the glorious privilege above To praise with ardour, and with rapture love. Far from this vale of milery and tears Her dear Redeemer face to face appears: There as he fees his heavily fmiles are feen. No clouds of doubt or darkness pass between. There God the fon with all enliv'ning ray Shines on his chosen one eternal day: In full fruition there the ranfom'd prove How rich his blood, how vast a Saviour's love! In wonder rapt, her bosom all on fire, There your dear partner founds the golden lyre, And, as the grateful strikes the tremb'ling strings Of fov'reign grace, with extacy she fings! There the bless'd faint in her past christian race The darkest paths of Providence can trace: In all his ways can fee a faithful God, And kiss the hand that held the chast'ning rod: Though cares perplex'd and doubts diffres'd her mind.

She fees her God, her Jesus ever kind.

Who

Who ne'er for lakes the weakest of his saints, But kindly hears and pities their complaints; And often sends them blessings in disguise, Even when he seems regardless of their cries. And now she finds his promises are sure, And ever shall to endless years endure; A crown more brilliant decks your partner now, Than ever sparkled on a monarch's brow. Now she enjoys that glorious state above Where saith and hope are swallow'd up in love!

O happpy ye! who in your Jesus sleep, He will your slumbering dust in safety keep. Till the last trumpet shall awake the dead, And rouse the sleepers from their dusty bed; The joyful soul shall meet her partner then, And animate her kindred clay again, Which incorrupt, shall fair, immortal rise, And join a Saviour's triumph in the skies!

(A) Proise grace, with extley the fail of

In all his look our less till the of

These the black it had the plet and contributed the contributed and the contributed an

And kits the hand that hald the chall hing rad:
Though cares halved dand donots diffran'd
her mind,

The SILENT PREACHER.

Designed for the Tomb of a Student in Divinity, who departed this life, Anno 1789, in the 19th year of his age. By the same.

STAY, reader, whoso'er thou art,
And let my early doom
Impress with sacred dread thy heart,
And teach thee from the tamb.

With pleasure once I thought to found The gospel trump aloud:
But now my pulpit's under ground,
My vestment is a shroud.

A folemn lecture now I preach
Of truth without disguise;
While yet thy hope is in thy reach,
O listen! and be wise.

Tho' health's warm current swell thy veins,
And thou art young and gay,
Yet soon disease, with racking pains,
May hurry thee away.

I too was young; but yet in youth,

Constrain'd by grace divine,

I search'd the precious word of truth,

And sound the Saviour mine.

He shone upon my dying hours,
He watch'd my latest breath;
Sustain'd tired nature's seeble pow'rs,
And strengthen'd me in death.

More I could tell thee how above
My happy foul's employ'd;
But ah! by thee this feast of love
Cannot be now enjoy'd.

To Jesus cry for life and light,
Whilst on the earth below,
Then those sweet scenes which greet my sight,
Hereafter thou shalt know.

aniov with the warm our touth the voing.

T too

Yes (son cheat, with reclaims with 3)

O inten!, and be wife.

May burry thee twenty

factional collection control of the state of the same of the same of the fact of the same of the fact of the same of the same

fue expecient. VIXXX (of charcount of ting

MARTHA SHAPLEY, of Macclesfield, died in Christ in the year 1793. A singular instance of the Lord's sovereign goodness in ber conversion, which took place in 1789, under the ministry of the Rev. Mr. W-re.

OHE had been a very notorious finner, a D great swearer, and so addicted to drunkennels, that the could keep no decent apparel on her back. But her husband, at this time, having had fome ferious impressions on his mind, was accustomed to go under the word of God in regular attendance. This exciting her jealoufy, (for the was wont to fay, he only went to the chapel for bad purposes.) She went one evening, it being dark, to be a fpy upon him; but behold! this was the hour and power of the Lord to her foul; the was then brought to fee the importance of the one thing needful: fhe told the writer of this account, the no fooner heard the voice in the chapel, but all the rage of fatan in her was done away, the word came to her con**fcience**

science like pointed arrows, she bitterly wep and cried to the Lord for mercy; the bondage the experienced in her foul on account of fin. was foon observable to all around: she laboured under much terror for weeks and months together; and wanted to speak with the minister for some weeks after her convictions; at last one of the friends came with her into the veftry; never did an aspin leaf tremble more than she did. The minister endeavoured to give the confolation the word of God afforded to every trembling, convinced finner. Her mind grew more composed, and after fome weeks the was enabled to rejoice in the Lord, as her God. The lion-like disposition she before manifested was fubdued by grace; tenderness and meeknels were manifest to all around; and, as Doctor Watts expresses it, was and pours.

Great was the work, my neighbours cry'd,
And own'd the power divine.

She was taken into church-fellowship and walked in the fear of the Lord; she afterwards met in a woman's society for prayer and singing, and the gift she had in prayer was pleasing

icience

to all present for seriousness and sweet sim-

One thing is worthy of notice, and deserves to be remembered, that being brought up by her parents in a total neglect of reading and spelling, she much lamented her situation in that respect; and put herself under the care of a neighbour to teach her to read the word of God, The gave about three-pence a week for this purpose, and in a few months was enabled, by prayer and close attention, to read most parts. of the new Testament, and some of the old, which she had by her as her daily companion; fhe had a liberal heart to do good to others, or to the cause of God, even beyond her power: indeed fhe shone a striking testimony of the Lord's great goodness in plucking such a brand from the burning.

No. XXXV.

Barn's new very to her: for now the entered

the called the new Trindalcan in

On the Death of ---.

A Friend coming to see her, she said, "I am going to Jesus; I long to be with him; I do love him." The friend answered, "Then

Then you have feen some of his beauties, to wish to go to him?" "O yes, he is the chiefest of ten thousand, and alltogether lovely; who shall deliver from this body of fin, and death?" fhe was answered, Christ was the ransom. She replied, " A precious ranfom! I trust, I am going to the Lord; I am going to Jesus, which is far better. There is help in Jesus, Jesus is all-fufficient. He has given me great faith, I want to be with Jesus to-night; but I-shall be with him to-morrow, I do love him." She often faid, "Long-suffering God! abundant in mercy and goodness; mercy, mercy !" she faid to those around her, "I love you all, but I love Christ better, and I can leave all to go to him;" and when her speech was going, her friends could hear her fay, " Exalted!" Thus the sweetly fell affeep in Jesus, about a quarter before one o'clock on new year's morning, a happy new year to her; for now fhe entered the city of the new Jerusalem above.

Dr. eller Dearld of sense

A Priced round of no general beariff A discount of the bearing to be a selected as the selecte

not I:20

No. XXXVI.

R. C---, had long made a profession of the gospel but was afterwards a However, when it pleafed the back flider. Lord to lay him on his death-bed, he confessed, "he knew he deserved hell, and that his case was the worse because he had sinned against light and truth." But at another time, he faid, " Jesus Christ died for such sinners as he was;" and then he would be calling upon the Lord for forgiveness. Suffering much in the body he was fometimes impatient to be gone; then he would be humbled for not waiting patiently the Lord's leifure who had by this time appeared graciously to heal his backflidings. He fald, "he would not -dive to be fuch a finner again for ten thousand "worlds." The Lord had now given him fuch a full affurance of faith, that according to his own words, inhe knew his fins were pardoned, and "that he was going to Jefus." all fractions dead of the office about the selection

When a minister was with him a week before his death, and had engaged in prayer, though he was extremely weak in body, he raised raifed himself up in the bed, and cried out; many times, "Jesus is with us; Jesus is with us;" he then repeated many passages of scripture. Afterwards, some of the last words he was heard to utter, were, "It is sinished.---It is done.--Salvation is sweet;" and so continued praising the Lord all night. His soul was taken to glory, January 15, 1790.

the body he was foractiones imparted to be

he was I and then he wonte he calling upon

ion Rev. and Dear Sir, ow and nath and

denie in That at anomiet ciore.

ON December 9th, 1793, I was fent for tovisit a little boy only thirteen years of
age, in dying circumstances, and from the subsequent account I think you will conclude the
visit was not in vain. It may not be improper
to observe, that this child had been left an orphan, when very young; so that living with an
old helpless aunt, (though I trust a christian) the
want of parental exertions was soon observed in
this poor child, who being very much deformed
in his body became the butt of ridicule for his
play-

play-mates, when he contracted fuch an habit of Twearing and other bad language, as often to terrify the rest and make them leave his company; at length, finding himfelf shunned, he began to betake himself to another course and different acquaintance, and frequently to come to the Chapel, at the Mulberry Gardens, where he was very attentive. Soon after this' he was taken ill, which was the occasion of my being fent for: On my entering the room he exclaimed, "O Sir! I am dying, before I have been made alive! I have committed more fin in thirteen years than all the people in this room; the weight of my guilt is ready to fink me into hell! O! what shall I do? what shall I do, to escape the damnation of hell?" I asked him, how long he had feen himfelt fo vile?" he faid, " from the first time that he went to the Mulberry Gardens; but I find I grew worse and worse every day. Do you think God can save fo great a finner as me?" To these enquiries I answered as pertinently as I could, pointing him to the word and to the testimony; reminding him that the blood of Christ cleanfeth from all fin, though of a scarlet or crimson dye, and now that he was exalted to give repentance and

and remission of fin to all who feel it their burden. Here he cried out, "Oh that Tefus would but give me repentance and falvation! Oh that I could but take hold of him as mine; for then I would hold him fast, and never never, never, let him go! Oh that I could but eat his flesh and drink his blood! I never wish to taste any other food; if I could believe that Christ died for me, one drop of his blood applied to my heart would banish all my pain and guilt!" (upon all these things I made fome remarks as he was going on,) "Oh !" continued he, " if I escape the torments of hell, I shall be the greatest miracle in Heaven." When I proposed going to prayer with him he replied, with a flood of tears, "O yes, pray for me, that Christ may reveal himself to me, and give me patience under my pain." After prayer, being hardly off my knees, he cried out, "Amen, fo come Lord Jefus!" After about a minute's profound filence, his mind at the fame time, appearing to be in a devout exercife, he turned his face to me, and faid, "I am now perfuaded that God will fave me after all; and I believe, were I to die this moment, I should be received into his bosom. He tells Leli

me. I shall not perish, but have everlasting life. I know that my Redeemer liveth; and though this poor sickly body shall soon become a heap of ashes, yet I shall one day see him, face to face, in a body like his own."

December 10, I called again and found him very comfortable, "I supped last night, said he, after you lest me, very heartily; and have not lost the relish of my supper yet, and there is enough for our supper to night again if you will partake along with me." I asked him, "what his supper was?" "Christ the everliving God."

When I called Dec. 11, he faid, "Oh! Sir, I have lost my way, my Christ, and my comforts; and have been combating the devil and his temptations all night; I have been in such racking pain all night, that I wished for deliverance any way. I have been tempted to kill myself by a hard blow in the pit of my stomach, that if I was a child of God I might go to Heaven the sooner! surely such a thought could never have been conceived but between the devil and my heart! O pray that the thought of my heart may be forgiven; for I see no difference

between my fins and those of satan." Nothing particular struck my notice till the 15th when he appeared almost gone; till a few friends came in and sung two or three hymns, the first was,

"There is a fountain fill'd with blood," &c.
The second,

"In Christ my treasure's all contain", &c.

While finging the latter, he fprang up in bed and joined them to loud, that all were aftonished! and in the middle exclaimed, "All my treasure is in Christ, and so is my heart also; I am surrounded by his glory, I perceive it fills the whole room, and my heart is overflowing with his love! all I fee and feel is eternal reality though beyond expression! O sing louder! fing unto the Lord all the earth! On Dec. 16. he told ine, "he had been much tempted to fear lall his comforts were a delution, and Christ himself a deceiver; but said he, "The treasure is put into earthen vessels, that the exi cellency of the power may appear to be of God and not of us." I called on him the 19th, when y be for given for I Kento affice or

ed

when he said, "I long more for death, than ever I did for any thing in my life! O that God would take me home, that I may no longer sin against him! for I am a vile wretch---I cannot endure pain." On the 23d, he seemed quite in the dust, crying "God be marciful to me a sinner!" On this day he frequently replied,

"Manaffeh, Paul and Magdalen Were pardoned all by thee; I read it and believe it, Lord, For thou hast pardon'd me."

To a friend who was particularly kind in fending him little things fuited to his stomach, he said, "You have by your kindness in sending me such nourishment, been the means of keeping me a whole fortnight out of heaven."

The day following, waking suddenly out of sleep, he said "I shall very shortly have three convulsion-sits, and the last will land me safe in glory." And I trust the prediction was literally true, though at first it appeared a mere sancy. For he was seized with the first the Vol. III.

fame day, the second on the morrow, and the third carried him off; thus leaving a testimony, that "out of the mouth of babes and sucklings God has ordained his praise."

I am,

Rev. and dear Sir,
Yours in the gospel of Christ,
Richard Munn.

No. XXXVIII.

Extract of a Letter from a Christian Friend, living in Cornwall, to the Editor. April 1794.

POOR (may I not rather fay rich) S. Lydicott, of Roach, entered into the joy of his Lord last summer. I believe, throughout his whole illness, which was near three quarters of a year, he had not one single doubt of his eternal happiness. I often saw him, and always found him exulting in the freeness and sulness of the work of Christ, and the compleatness and perfection of his finished salvation. He often spoke of you, as the first instrument in the hands of God of awakening him to a fight of his sinsulness and vileness.

[267]

No. XXXIX.

Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Mr. BER-RIDGE to Mr. EDWARDS, of Ipswich, on the death of his wife.

DEAR BROTHER,

MR. Winter informs me of the loss of your dear wife — You once knew she was mortal, but she has now put off mortality, and is become immortal. Can this grieve you? Oh that I was where she is!

Safe landed on that peaceful shore, Where pilgrims meet to part no more.

She was once a mourning finner in the wilderness, but is now a glorified saint in Sion; the Lord is become her everlasting light, and the days of her mourning are ended; does this trouble you? She was once afflicted with bodily pains and weakness, encompassed with cares and harrassed with a croud of anxious needless sears; but she is now arrived at her father's house; and Jesus, dear Jesus, has wiped all tears from her eyes and delivered her in a moment from all pains, cares, fears, wants; and shall this affect you?

"She ranges o'er the heavenly plains,
And fings with fweet heart-melting strains;
And now her foul begins to prove
The heights and depths of Jesu's love.

He chears her with an eternal smile, She sings hosannas all the while; Or, overwhelm'd with rapture sweet, Sinks down adoring at his feet."

You have not lost your wife; she has only left you for a few moments; left an earthly husband to visit an heavenly father, and expects your arrival there foon, to join her hallelujah for redeeming love; are you ftill weeping? fie upon you, my brother! weeping, because your wife can weep no more; weeping, because she is happy, because she is joined to that assembly, where all are kings and priefts; weeping, because she is daily feasted with heavenly manna, and hourly drinking new wine in her father's kingdom; weeping, that she is now where you would be, and long to be eternally; weeping, because she is finging, and finging fweet anthems to her God and your God! Oh! shameful weeping! Jefus has fetched your bride triumphantly home to his kingdom, to draw your foul more ardently thither, he has broken up a ciftern to bring you nearer and keep you closer to the fountain: Has caused a moment's separation, to divorce your affections from the creature; and has torn a wedding-string from your heart, to set it a bleeding more freely and panting more vehemently for Jesus. Hereafter you will see how gracious the f 260]

Lord has been in calling a beloved wife home in order to betroth the husband more effectually toh imself. Remember that the house of mourning becomes and befriends a sinner; that sorrow is a safe companion for a pilgrim, who walks much astray till his heart is well broken, may all your tears slow in a heavenly channel, and every sigh wast your soul to Jesus! may the God of all consolation comfort you throlife, and in death afford us a triumphant entrance into his kingdom!

Everton,

J. BERRIDGE.

Nov. 26,1771.

No. XL.

ELIZABETH LASKEY, of 64 years of age, died triumphantly in the Lord, April 2, 1795.

HAVING lived in ignorance of God, and the necessity of salvation by the Lord Jesus till about ten years before her death, she was prevailed on sometimes by a religious friend, who employed her in her labour, to go to Spa-fields to hear the gospel. But it did not at first appear to have any effect upon her. So far from it, that when she met with cruel usage from a wicked husband, the above-mentioned friend said to her, "This, I hope, will work for good." "Good, she replied, I do not know where it is to come from, I am over-top-ped with trouble"---But having at that time a

little boy of about 5 years of age, that was accustomed to go to that chapel at times, and appeared to be under divine impressions, he said, at one time, "My father will come and trouble us---let us sing a hymn." What hymn? said his mother, he answered,

" Take my poor beart," &c.

(hymn 83 in Lady Huntingdon's Collection)

At another time, when a friend had given her a gown; the child putting his hand upon it, faid, "Mammy, now you have got that good gown, I wish you would go to cnapel." She faid, "What chapel!" he answered, "to the Chapel where Mrs. Emmot goes; and you will hear good." This lay much on her mind when her son died; and before he was buried; as fhe had a great affection for the child, and his request was so strongly impress'd on her mind, she could not help going to the chapel; and Mr. Knight (then my affiftant) happening to preach that evening, his subject was the difcourse of our Lord with the woman of Samaria. When he came to that part where Christ, (verse 10) said, If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that faith to thee; Give me to drink, thou

trades trade to a contrada de Lores "S. Estas do abase Aug

wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water. On her hearing the last words of this text, thou wouldest have asked of him, &c. she faid within herself, "But he will not give it me;" and immediately, as if a voice had spoken within, she seemed to hear him fay, but I will. At this time, under this passage, she was convinced of fin; and on her way home the mentioned her diffress of foul to some serious people. When she came to her own habitation, the could not refrain from kifsing her child's dead corpfe; and praifed God for having made him the happy instrument of her hearing the precious gospel that evening. From that time she continued a close attendant on the word, and fought the Lord.

Sometime after this, it pleased God to visit her with another fore affliction. Her only surviving child, a daughter of about one and twenty years of age, and who was a great support to her mother, was taken ill of a rheumatic fever, which in due time proved fatal. And what made the loss more sensibly felt by her disconsolate parent, she had been lately awakened to a concern for her soul, and was wont to converse with her about divine; things, of M 4

which is recorded in this volume. These deep afflictions, together with great distress of soul (not having yet received any solid and abiding comfort from the Lord) almost overwhelmed her with despair, so that she said, in a sit of murmuring and rebellion against God, "I will go into my own country;" (which was between 2 and 300 miles off) as if she could sly from his presence or from his visitations. Her friend said to her, "Trust to the Lord, he will bring you through." Upon this, she staid in London; and afterwards rejoiced, for this counsel that was now given her.

Soon after this, she considered within herself, "Did Christ die for sinners? if he did shed his blood, oh that I could but see one drop of it!" At last he graciously revealed himself to her, after about six weeks, and set her soul at liberty, under an exhortation I was giving my society (which met at that time in Shoe-lane) from this passage, "I will worship toward thy boly temple, and praise thy name for thy lowing-kindness and for thy truth; for thou bast magnified thy word above all thy name. In the day when I cried, thou answereds me and strengtheneds me with strength in my soul." Psalm exxxviii. 2, 3.

From the time (and I remember the evening though her body was generally in the most excruciating pain from a bleeding cancer in the fide of her neck, which iffued in her death, after the had lingered feven years to a miracle, and was reduced to a skeleton not able for a long time to take any thing folid, not even a crumb of bread (so that she was almost starved to death) yet her foul was fo full of joy and peace in believing, as never to have been interrupted by any cloud or temptations except once, and that only for a few moments. In speaking of this temptation to a friend, she said, "It made her tremble when the thought of it; and that the knew not fcarcely how to mention it; that it was as if some one was passing before her, and put blasphemous thoughts into her mind, and tempted her strongly to swear. But she cried out in an agony, "Lord, lay not this to my charge; forgive me, forgive me. Let fatan depart from me." Immediately after, the following lines from Dr. Watts's version of the 120th Psalm came into her mind,

"On thee foul spirits have no pow'r;
And in thy last departing hour
Angels that trace the airy road
Shall bear thee home-ward to thy God,"
M 5

This, I fay, appears to be the only time, in which, during the space of five or fix years, she was forely buffeted by satan. (the most uncommon case of that kind I ever remember to have met with, during the whole course of my ministry, which I have been exercising near three and thirty years.) But what cannot almighty power, and sovereign grace do?

During her whole illness, as numbers can testify, her experience and conversion were so very sweet and evangelical, that it was always like a comfortable ordinance to visit her, and to hear her speak of Jesus, and of his gracious dealings with her happy soul.

Indeed it was more like converting with a glorified spirit from heaven, than a poor pilgrim still upon earth. How have I, and scores be sides me, been edified, strengthened, warmed, and comforted by the language of Canaan, that continually dropp of rom her gracious lips! for out of the abundance of her heart, her mouth did speak of the love of God to her, a pardoned sinner; indeed she knew no end thereof. I believe, her happy experience related from time to time would fill volumes. One conversation shall

shall serve as a specimen; which, as I found it convenient to take notes of at the very time, I am happy to recite; and is as follows, in her own words, delivered as she was enabled to speak in distinct sentences.

The Lord is only taking away the drofs, to refine me-He will gather me in foon as a fully shock in time of harvest-What a pleasant fong shall I fing, when I am fet at liberty from all my bodily pains! I shall praise Jesus aloud-Oh bleffed, bleffed gospel day, when I was set at liberty in my foul; what a pleasing story is is to those who know the love of Jesus!-His rod is gentle, and what has it been for? to make my Aiff neck bow down-I am waiting for precious confolation-Who can but love Jefus?-Mine is a trembling carcafe, but a strengthened foul-If Christ had not come, I should have been damned to all eternity"-One day. the faid, when the came out of a fit, it feemed to her as if the had been in a trance, converfing with celestial spirits; and when she opened her eyes, the thought within herfelf, what woful figures the now beheld around her bed, in comparison with those she had just beheld; "but I was glad, fhe added, to tell them what the Lord had done for my foul;" and wished them

to feel what I had felt-My neighbour (who is a ferious man that lived on the same floor, and frequently visited her) saw me in the fit, and expected to find me a corpfe on his return; but he found me praising Jesus; he asked me, if I wanted nourthment? I answered him, my cup runneth over-I am waiting for death; he will be a bleffed meffenger; it will be glorious tidings for me, when he fays, come and fee"holding up her withered arm, the faid, "Here are my poor bones, but what fignifies it, when I am going to heaven? It is a withered, but a bleffed, arm. It is redeemed-No doctor could ever yet ease my body; but I have the great Physician-One wanted to put a plaister to my ftomach; but Christ brings bis plaister, and all is fafe-I have a pleafing story-God makes my bed on every fide-You fee me a poor wretch, wrapt up in Jesus' mantle-I defu any that know Jesus to hold their tongue-I am a wonder to myfelf; I have always something of the word of God given me to medicate upon-Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, if I praise him not whilst I have power and breath to do it-I pray Christ, we may all stand boldly at the great day. I lie at the gate of mercy, waiting to be welcomed home-Heaven's

ven's gate is open to all that come to Jefus-One man faid to another, she observed, where did you meet with God? where I left the creature, he replied-I am, she added, as a finner turned upfide down-What I regarded before, I have done with it all now-I was speaking to one lately, that is like what I was once; and I faid, you are like a door turning upon hinges, and will be fo, till the Lord comes You go to hear, but you know nothing of the love of God in your foul. The person wept. I was very thankful to fee it; and told her to run to Jefus; I was constrained to tell her - Many may smile and jeer, but Christ will be remembered-I beg Christ to strengthen my feeble tongue-I shall fing loud by and by." Addressing me as a minister, she said, your labour will not be in vain; It is a bleffing to me when you come to fee me. I am then like a person raised from the dead.

"Many precious friends have come to me—but Christ is a friend that does not say, I will come again if you are alive; but I am with you always—He has fulfilled that word to me, when thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivere, they shall not overflow thee; when thou walkest through

the fire, thou falt not be burnt, neither fall the flame kindle upon thee." Ifa. xliii. 2. I was an outcast, but I am chosen. I am finking in body, but rifing to eternity-In the midst of my comfort I feel myself an obstreperous wretch, but I am left behind to tell how good the Lord is My shaking bones teach me a good lesson, how gentle the Lord is in shewing mercy-Not me !- Let friends clap their hands when I go home - A lump of clay! what a miracle, the enemy is kept-My God never fleeps nor flumbers-All is well in my foul-Thoufands of angels tarry to illuminate my throne-I have prayed, not to be too highly exalted-I shall be with the Lord-None can pluck me out of his hands-I am filled with joy-All is well"-Speaking of "the Lord's day, she replied, "That is every day to the Lord's people (meaning, not that there should be no distinction, but that believers should glorify the Lord that bought them, and live to him, every day of their lives) When I am landed fafe on Canaan's shore, I shall be all on fire, and will fing,

"There is a fountain fill'd with blood," &c.

(See hymn 162inLadyHuntingdon'scollection)
In

In this manner she used to converse not only with me, but the numerous christian friends that constantly visited her.

Not long before her death she said among other things to one of my family, "I am going where I long to be; I am going to my blessed Jesus—I take leave of every one that comes to me; and I tell them I hope to see them in heaven around the throne—My heart is overslowing with love to Jesus; but I cannot express myself in words; (her speech being then very thick) every means now sail me, and the work is cutting short."

The last time I saw her, her eyes were sunk in their sockets—she could with difficulty utter a word (though perfectly in her senses) but when I said, "You are just at home." Aye, said she, with a heavenly smile, "All but there."—" tell them, (meaning our christian friends and the congregation) the Lord is saithful. I am a witness to it;" expressing it, with a nod of her head, with inexpressible significance.

Just before her departure, lifting up her found arm, she said to an old faithful friend; "Look at it, I am struck with death." The friend replying, "You are not assaid of death?"

She

She answered readily, "No". "You'are glad, said her friend; she said, "Yes." From that time till the moment of her departure, she was almost continually in prayer, and was heard to say, "Sweet Jesus! leave me not in the shadow of death. Sweet Jesus! Come! come quickly!" which were the last words she uttered; and then fell asseep in the arms of her beloved.

No. XLI.

In account of the melancholy death of one Joseph M-----ge, of the Parish of S-----y, near Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, Some years ago.

HE lived estranged from God in a course of open rebellion and actual transgression against him; violating his law, trampling upon his authority, and adding iniquity unto iniquity; walking in the ways of his evil heart, and in the sight of his eyes; not considering that for all these things God would bring him into judgment; and that he was treasuring up for himself wrath aginst the day of wrath; satan having blinded

his eyes and hardened his heart. It may be necessary to observe here, that amongst other vices, he was much addicted to the brutal practice of cock-fighting.

When he was near thirty years of age, it pleased God to afflict him with a violent fever, when there was little hope of his recovery. He now began to be alarmed; his conscience, which till that time feemed to have been afleen, was roused; the fear of death was on every side; yea the unutterable pangs of hell got hold on him; and the keenest sensibility of being exposed to eternal punishment constrained him to cry out in the bitterest anguish; not so much for the pardon of his fins, as to have his life fpared; for he thought of dwelling with everlasting burnings (which was all he dreaded) was what he could not endure. "O (faid he) that God would spare me a little longer !---O that he would fuffer me to live, that I may turn to him, and become a new man !" Many fuch things as these he uttered, when he thought death was approaching near him, and its terrors took hold of his mind, then he made the most folemn vows and protestations to forfake his wicked practices and cleave unto the Lord with

with full purpose of heart, upon condition that he would raise him up again; promising to part with all his fighting-cocks, and never to be guilty of any of those sins that he had formerly committed: but these resolutions were made in his own strength, and therefore come to nothing.

It pleased God to grant him a respite, and restore him in a great measure to his former health; when his vicious inclinations returned again, and his words proved like water spilt upon the ground, or like the morning clouds, and early dew; for he feemed to have loft all fense of the horrors he had felt, and the engagements he had entered into; but God will not be mocked. The first time he went abroad after his recovery was to a place in the neighbourhood where he had a hatch of chickens, to appoint where they should be trained for the purpose of fighting: but God met him in his way, and he was feized with a relapse of his diforder, his guilty horrors returned with redoubled violence, fo that the last state of this miserable man was worse than the first; he had not the least glimmering of hope, but languishing in the most fearful torments, as though the flames of hell were already kindled upon him,

he constantly cried out, "Hell fire for ever! hell fire for ever!" until he expired in the sharpest agonies. Thus he died with no other prospect, than that of a certain fearful looking for of wrath and fiery indignation to be showered upon him without measure or mitigation throughout the countless ages of never-ending etermity.

As the tree falls so it lies; there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave, whither all mankind are hastening; it is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living sin-avenging God; who, out of Christ, is a consuming fire.—O that men were wise, that they understood this, that they would consider their latter end and cry for mercy before the door is shut.

No. XLII.

ON Wednesday, November 7, 1787, one W—rs a Smith went with five other persons to a Public-house in Leather-Lane, Holborn, to dine and spend the Asternoon together

ther. About five o'Clock fome dispute arese between this man and one P. another smith: about paying for a pot of beer, and a challenge enfued, which the latter would have avoided; but W- infifted he should fight him the next day for a guinea: Upon this some abusive language was exchanged on both fides, and P. gave him a gentle push; on which W-fell to the ground; and upon rifing went and fat down on a bench, swearing the most horrid oaths, until God struck him dead, with an oath on his quivering lips. I had this account from the foreman of the jury, who fat upon the body; and (as no very hard blow was given him) they were unanimous in their verdict, that W_ was struck dead as a judgment from God. The deceased was only 25 years of age.

Learn hence, reader, how fearful a thing it is to fall into the hands of the living God! Seek therefore his grace that thou mayest be a sollower of them, who through faith and patience inherit the promises; that, the sting of death being taken out, you may render thanks unto Him, who giveth us the victory, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

